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# WINTER SPECIAL

UNITED NATIONS INTELLIGENCE TASK FORCE

# UNIT

## EXPOSED

The secret  
organisation  
that defends our  
planet



A complete UNIT  
Fact File  
All-new material!  
Contributors include  
Jon Pertwee  
Nicholas Courtney  
Colin Baker  
Richard Franklin  
John Levene  
Katy Manning  
and writers  
Derrick Sherwin  
Ben Aaronovitch

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**N**ow we all know the truth – *Doctor Who* is dead! He was killed off by the sixth-floor Lords of the BBC. No more time travel adventures, no more TARDIS in space – instead, vanquished to the vaults and archives of the BBC forever!

For the last year or so, stories of independent TV production of a 'new' series have been floated by the BBC PR unit to quell the wrath and disappointment of the *Who* fans, 110 million worldwide we are told. Indeed, I was one such independent producer who approached the BBC for the opportunity to breathe new life and co-production finance into what had, admittedly, become a 'tired' series. All to no avail. *Doctor Who* was dead! He was not to be mourned, he was not to be memorialized by one last great adventure – he was to die an ignoble death of failure, death by indifference and neglect.

Whilst the BBC can kill off one of the most loved and successful series they can not kill off the essential 'spirit' of such SF shows. *Star Trek* successfully up-dated itself – why not *Doctor Who*? The audience is there; all it requires is money and the inventiveness of a good independent production team to stimulate and revive the enthusiasm and loyalty of that audience.

When I first joined the BBC on the *Doctor Who* production team the quality of inventiveness amongst the writers and directors had atrophied. There was little for the audiences to identify with since almost every story was set on some far off planet, with strange inhabitants and off life-styles which bore little or no resemblance to life as we know it.

Audiences, not surprisingly, were falling off; the frustration and impotency of its creative talent was showing in each desperate, successive storyline. The death knoll of the series was sounding.

Reviewing past successful science fiction stories, it became evident that the one element that was missing was the question of 'reality'. This is so necessary in good storytelling, the involvement of the audience with what is going on on the screen. I therefore decided that the series had to be brought down to Earth, quite literally.

At the time our newspapers were awash with stories and accounts of 'flying saucers', cigar-shaped spaceships, UFO's, voices from radio waves from far off galaxies. There was speculation about the nature of 'black holes' and an aura of excitement about manned space flight.

This kind of excitement and renewed interest in space and its enigmas gave credibility to the intention to bring *Doctor Who* into an earthbound environment. It also gave credibility to the creation of a special international taskforce, UNIT, to investigate unusual phenomena. Audiences immediately identified with what was going on on the screen; they could relate to the characters involved in the drama. Even though the science fiction elements of the stories were still incredible, they were, given the spirit of the time and the earthbound situation, possible and in some cases, probable.

The theory that 'reality counts' is supported by the success of subsequent SF films and TV series such as *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters*, *Alien*, *ET*, *Back to the Future*, *Star Trek* and many more. All have observed that Golden Rule – credibility and human involvement. Even





the monsters and 'baddies' were given credible and recognizable human attributes and qualities. Herein then lies the secret – credibility and believable representation of the unbelievable. Making the impossible seem possible.

UNIT – the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce – is synonymous with *Doctor Who*. The 110 million fans throughout the world know and love UNIT almost as much as they do the dear Doctor. Although *Doctor Who* may be dead, I can assure you that UNIT is not!

Now that the BBC has declared its hand to me insofar as they do not intend to produce, or allow others to produce, a new series of *Doctor Who*, I have equally declared my hand to them – that I am actively preparing a format for a science fiction series, with UNIT as the driving force.

When it became established in the series, UNIT intrigued the audiences. It is one of the 'specialized' undercover teams which they all believe exists anyway. UNIT was not totally explored during the *Doctor Who* years. The force was originally intended to have a brief to investigate all unusual phenomena, from without and within our planet. Carry that brief to its logical conclusion and you have an autonomous UN taskforce, made up of many nationalities and with the ability to recruit the assistance of the top scientists in the world, to investigate any world-threatening situation outside the warlike confrontations between nations.

The unbelievable is believable once we put it in credible, everyday circumstances. *Close Encounters* is a perfect example of this. The audiences' attention was totally held by what was in their imagination, not by what they were shown on the screen. The only certification of this was in the last ten minutes of what was a hundred and twenty minute film! All of the rest was 'light' and their stimulated imagination.

I would bet every brick that supports my house that if there were to be a 'Saucer From Space' story in tomorrow's newspapers, nine out of ten people would be prepared to believe it! Science fiction, like religion, is a question of man's need and ability to believe in the unknown.

For obvious reasons I cannot expose the format of the new UNIT series. Equally I can not yet tell you when and even if it will ever hit your TV screens. What I can promise you is that if it does get produced, if I can persuade the powers that be that we can capture that 110 million audience with the new series, then the shows will be of the highest quality that today's TV facilities can provide.

It will not have "All those low-budget television special effects that made it look like something left over from the Seventies," which Michael Grade complained of when he was Head of BBC Television. I agree with him when he was also quoted as saying, "With a lot more money spent on it and a firebrand young producer, the format may not be dead". Whilst I am not a 'young' producer any longer, I remain a firebrand. And whilst *Doctor Who* might be dead, the spirit, through UNIT lives on!

Derrick Sherwin.  
August 1991.

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In the final instalment of his series on the United Nations for *The Metropolitan*, Andrew Dylan considers the role of its least known and possibly it's most important arm, the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce.

If you follow the Yorkshire Coast northwards from Runswick Bay you come to a small cove known locally as Maiden's Point. Lining the landward side of the coastal footpath is a three metre fence topped by razor wire. Armed soldiers patrol the fence at deliberately random intervals and deal vigorously with any attempt to gain access to the site.

Mary Gately, who runs the Youth Hostel up the coast at Boulby, frequently warns the curious away from the place. According to her it was once a Naval Base involved in 'some kind of germ warfare experiments' during the Second World War and has been sealed off ever since. Like most local people, Mrs Gately assumes that the soldiers that patrol Maiden's Point belong to the British Army, but in this she is wrong. Missing from their uniforms are the distinctive 'tribal' regimental markings so dear to the British Army. Instead, on the shoulder there is a small square insignia, a stylised white globe on a sky blue background. The formation sign of UNIT – the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce.

My first real contact with UNIT was in December 1989 during the overthrow of Ceaucescu in Romania. I was at the TV station during that extraordinary period of government by media when I was introduced to a young black woman calling herself 'Beverley'. While she carried a press card, there was also the distinctive bulge in her jacket that is caused by a big gun in a shoulder

holster. Rumours proliferated around her; she was CIA, SIS, even KGB! She did seem to have more than a journalistic role in her dealings with the Provisional Government. Later, I was to hear another wilder rumour about her; that she had taken a blood sample from the late and unlamented President immediately after his execution. I have since discovered that her real name was Winifred Bambera, and that she was a former Lieutenant in the British Army and now a Captain in UNIT.

My experience in Romania is not unique. Many colleagues who have worked in the world's trouble spots have similar stories. Men and women who appear in the middle of a crisis,



Winifred Bambera: undercover agent?

frequently in civilian, sometimes eccentric dress, perform often mysterious and incomprehensible tasks and then

vanish. For reasons that have remained unclear this has become known as the *Doctor syndrome*.

Tracking down UNIT is a frustrating process; on the one hand there are the matters of public record, United Nations budget statements for example providing a rich source for a hardy investigator. On the other hand there is a fantastic web of rumour and speculation that gives a glimpse of the often terrifying world that UNIT inhabits. The normal state of paranoid secrecy that has always pervaded the British establishment seems to rise to hysteria whenever UNIT is mentioned. Duncan Campbell to this day insists that the Special Branch raids on his home and the BBC North offices had nothing to do with the notorious *Zircon* episode of his series *Secret Society* but instead was staged to confiscate other research materials relating to the cancelled seventh episode, the one dealing with events surrounding Project Inferno and the Wenley Moor nuclear research facility. Campbell himself is strangely reluctant to discuss either of these issues.

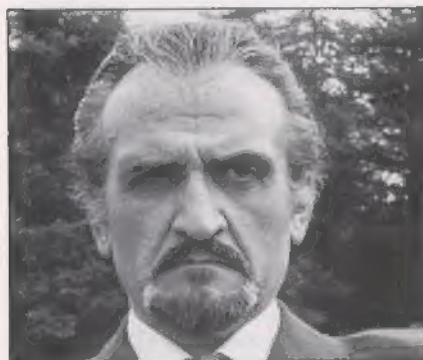
### Where it all began

A precursor to UNIT can be glimpsed in what has come to be known as the *Shoreditch Incident*. In his book *Space Invaders* author Stephan Briggs claims that the events of November 1963 was in fact an *incursion by extra terrestrials*. Even disregarding Briggs' wild



claims it is clear that the *Intrusion Counter Measures Group* led by Group Captain Gilmore played an active role in the emergency. Parliamentary records also indicate the ICMG were definitely called in to 'mop up' after the *C-Day Incident* in 1966 which saw the evacuation of central London, when a worldwide computer link-up plan went awry. Scientists seconded from the lists of the now defunct Royal Scientific Club assisted in dealing with huge robot guard machines whose programs were sabotaged by an unknown terrorist group. The scientists called on to assist the Army during the initial days of the operation included a Doctor John Smith, who later worked directly for UNIT. His actual academic qualifications and background are shrouded in mystery.

Although the ICMG seems to have gone to ground by the late Sixties, methods adapted from its training manuals were used in other strange incidents down the years. One that received much media attention occurred in 1971, when elements of the Army were used to track down dangerous animals in the London Underground. The final clear up operation was led by Colonel Lethbridge-Stewart, a name that was to crop up again as recently as 1988 in West London.

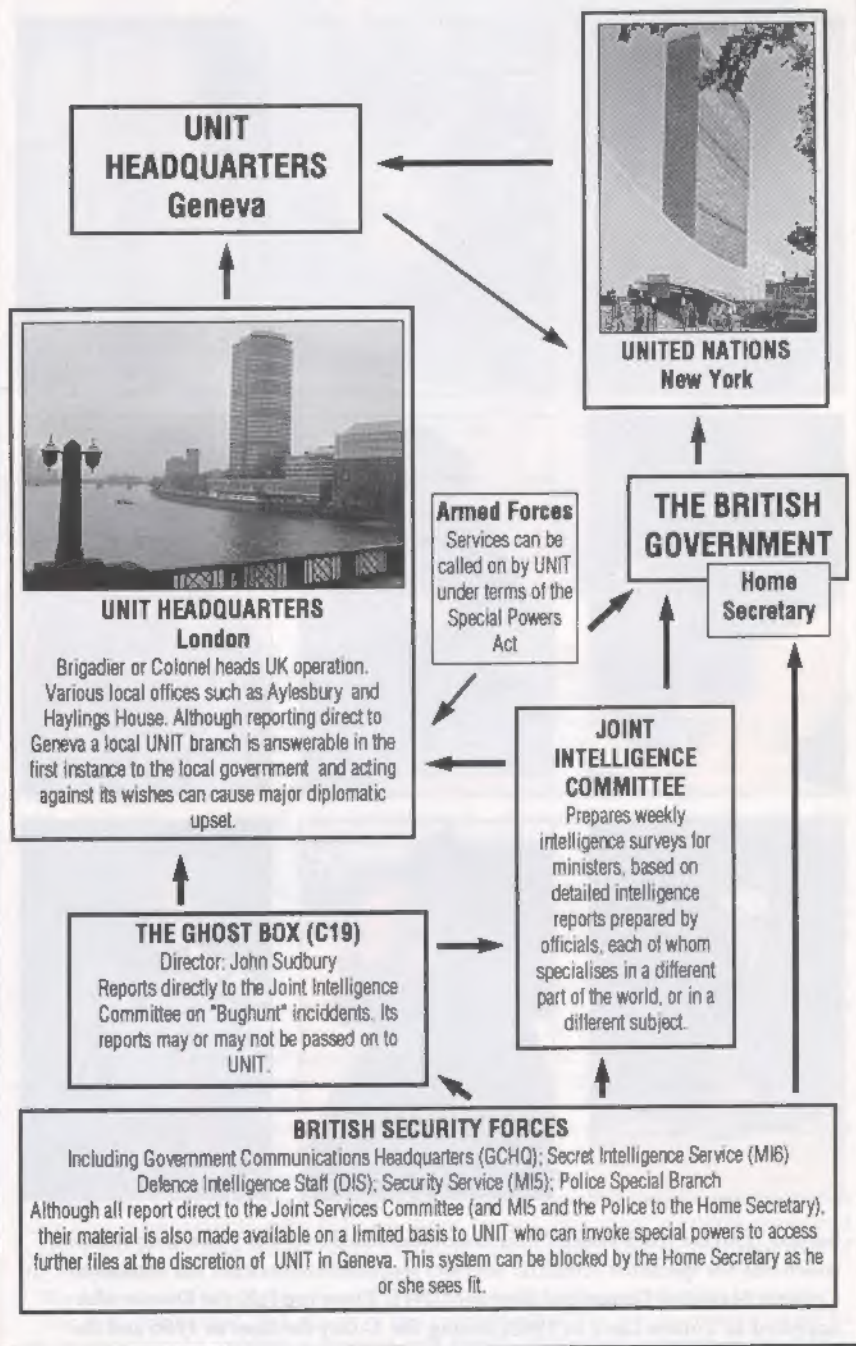


The mysterious Victor Magistair.

Officially, UNIT began with a special meeting of the Security Council in December 1971 which passed United Nations Security Council Resolution 232. The actual wording still remains a secret, but under R.232 a multi-national force was established with its headquarters in Geneva. The politics of the cold war dictated that the national branches of UNIT were drawn from the host countries' Armed Forces. This compromise, so typical of the UN, no doubt degraded UNIT's effectiveness as a true international body. The USSR contingent was widely regarded in diplomatic circles as being an auxiliary arm of Soviet Military Intelligence, the GRU. Soviet sources made identical accusations about the western branches, of course. Diplomatic slanging matches aside, the UK branch of UNIT does seem to have done a preponderance of security work during the late Seventies, including responsibility for Britain's ill-fated space programme. That the UK contingent of UNIT was active is evident in the grim tally of those soldiers listed as killed or missing in

# The UNIT Organisation

## How it operates in Britain



action, no less than ninety-eight between the years 1975 and 1980. According to MOD records these men died as a result of terrorist actions unrelated to the situation in Northern Ireland.

In 1975 UNIT was involved in suppressing the co-ordinated attacks made by terrorists on government buildings, police stations and communication centres in South East England. At first the government attributed the attacks to the IRA, but was forced to reveal the truth when press speculation about the so called 'plastic men'

threatened to escalate into public hysteria. Like the UFO craze of the 1950s alien invasion stories proliferated during the Seventies, wickedly satirised in John Wakefield's book *A Yeti in Tooting Bec*. All it took was an odd occurrence and the arrival of UNIT and the tabloids would start up again.

Alien invasions aside, the casualty figures alone show that UNIT was fighting *someone* during that period. A clue is provided by the trial of Victor Magistair held *in camera* in 1976. Little detail has emerged from the proceedings but it appears that Magistair, also



# Who is Doctor John Smith?



Several "Doctor John Smiths" have been identified over the years, a mysterious codename for specialist scientific advisors seconded to work for the Intrusion Counter Measures Group and later for UNIT. From top left, the Doctor who appeared at Totters Lane in 1963; during the *C-Day Incident* in 1966 and the man with the same alias at Gatwick Airport on the very same day (snapped by security cameras). Mid-left: the elegant man who worked with UNIT in the mid-Seventies was quickly followed by the more bohemian type who assisted UNIT on such incidents as *The Zygon Gambit*. This man also worked closely with the journalist, Sarah Jane Smith. Although not closely associated with UNIT the blond young man who appeared during the hushed-up and temporary disappearance of two Concorde at Heathrow Airport in 1982 proclaimed his links with the organisation to authorities there. Bottom left: strangely, the same Doctor John Smith who was photographed in 1963 was subsequently seen in Perivale in 1988, not looking a day older; and UNIT has been aided by other Doctors, both of whom pictured here, like all the others, have never been listed as staff at any scientific institution or appear in any university honours list.

known as 'the Master' was the brain behind many of the terrorist actions that plagued Britain in the preceding two years. It was inevitable that the terrorist group would become known as the *Master's Gang*.

In some ways they were ahead of their time; many of their attacks seem to precede the concerns of the late Eighties, their targets indicating ecological as often as political motives. The attack on Global Chemicals at Llanfair-fach for example, and the contamination of water supplies with a LSD derivative which caused London to be evacuated. Years later people still report the occasional dinosaur in Hyde Park! When they did strike at political targets they seemed almost anarchistic in intent, such as the bomb outrage at Auderley House, when they targeted an international peace conference.

## Behind the scenes

The man who led UNIT against these challenges was Brigadier Alistair Gordon Lethbridge-Stewart whose career has been well documented elsewhere. Despite his contentious relationship with governments of all political persuasions (unlike most senior officers he has never made the honours list) he still refuses to discuss his role as UNIT's most active senior officer. A reluctance to talk also permeates UNIT's civilian workers; Dr Elizabeth Shaw, who holds a chair in Physics at MIT, leaves an ostentatious gap in her memoirs around the period of her involvement with UNIT, as does Professor Rachel Gilmore. Jo Jones, a former liaison officer at UNIT HQ, refused point blank to discuss her time there, but since she is now standing as a parliamentary candidate for the Green Party her reticence is understandable. Only ex-Captain Mike Yates seems to have broken the silence — but can this messiah-type figure be believed?

The first phase of UNIT's history ended in 1984, when the same funding crisis that whittled down the British space programme did the same for UNIT. As an organisation that, theoretically at least, transcended national boundaries it was hardly likely to endear itself to Margaret Thatcher or Ronald Reagan. When America and Britain withdrew their support from UNICEF it was the final straw and UNIT went, not with a bang but with a whimper. It became a kind of non-subject in diplomatic and intelligence circles, not secret anymore, just not worth talking about.

What happened to change that is still unclear. Rumours of an attack on the Antarctica space monitoring base in 1986, of comet strikes (in Windsor of all places) in 1988 have been cited as reasons. Coupled with the effective ending of the cold war, the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and new moves to revitalise the UN, there seems to have been a resurrection of some of the international idealism of the Sixties. The Security Council meeting deemed most likely to have seen the re-establishment of UNIT took place in 1988 during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to New York. There it is



believed that the five permanent members, along with Canada, Zimbabwe, Germany, Argentina, Thailand, Japan and Saudi Arabia agreed to a reformation of the defunct organisation.

And once again, no one is willing to talk about it. Some sceptics even continue to state that it doesn't exist. Professor Francis Gardner, a psycho-historian at UCLA, says that UNIT is merely the product of cultural anxiety. He contends that UNIT, like religion, is created out of people's need to believe that something exists somewhere that can combat the forces of evil that they believe exist outside the bounds of normality. When you talk to him in his quiet little office on campus he's almost convincing.

There are two final twists to my UNIT story. In September 1991 like most people I became caught up in the drama that unfolded in a Baghdad car park. A team of inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency were surrounded by Iraqi security forces, trapped in their vehicles for the better part of a week. When I looked closely at some zoom lens footage I could see a familiar face scowling out of a car window. Captain Winifred Bambara, no longer listed as serving in the British Army, the same woman I had met in a besieged television studio in Bucharest.

From Geneva, if you walk along the north shore of the Lake you come to an old country house built in the later part of the eighteenth century. Once it was a finishing school; now it is ringed by a three metre high wire fence topped with razor wire. Guards patrol this fence in smart blue uniforms. You'd think they were policemen, if it wasn't for the stylised white globe on a sky blue background that they wear on their shoulders. At the main gate, the ground is torn up by the passage of earth moving equipment and you can see what look like excavations near the base of the house. Chalet-style housing is being built near the woods that fringe the grounds, through the screen of trees just beyond, a huge helicopter is just visible. It looks of Russian manufacture. Perhaps some of the Soviet peace dividend is being snapped up cheap – with the cut backs by the superpowers army surplus is big business. Not just equipment either; Geneva seems full of fit looking men and women. It might be my imagination but they seem to be trying not to salute each other.

By the main gate is a small sign, white letters on a blue background, bearing the legend, 'United Nations Intelligence Taskforce.' Underneath, someone has written, by hand on a bit of scrap cardboard, 'In the interest of community relations would all aliens, bug eyed monsters, robots, cyborgs and Doctors, please use tradesman entrance, thank-you.'

UNIT is back. Or did it never go away?

**Mike Yates claims UNIT is an alien defence force – Page 19. UNIT documents on alien incident at Auderley House – Page 26.**



*The Metropolitan's* freelance journalist Sarah Jane Smith, snapped here with Brigadier Lethbridge Stewart in 1980; and a portrait shot from 1984.



Somewhat aloof from the current fray stands the enigmatic figure of Sarah Jane Smith, who must be considered the leading civilian expert on UNIT. From 1979 to 1981 she took an extended sabbatical from her budding journalistic career to work for UNIT, acquiring for the duration the intriguingly vague title of assistant to the chief scientific advisor. Her actual activities were so secretive that she virtually vanished from the face of the earth for the duration. Her subsequent history of UNIT, *Fighting for Humankind*, though heavily vetted and evidently subjected to considerable censorship, represents the first authoritative work on that organisation released to the public.

In addition, despite her departure from UNIT, she has occasionally been called in as a consultant, helping out with the investigation of such peculiar events as the mysterious disappearance and return of a Concorde some years ago, as well as incidents at Jodrell Bank and Little Hodcombe in England, and Paris, Amsterdam and Seville on the Continent.

She is better known to the general public, however, in other areas. As a freelance journalist (for newspapers and periodicals including our own), she is renowned for her daring and incisive coverage of European terrorism. Most popular of all, though, and standing in striking contrast to her usual work, are her fanciful series of science fiction stories. Featuring the mysterious alien Doctor and his cheerful, long-suffering companion Nicola Jones, not to mention other entertaining characters such as the stalwart but slow-witted Rupert Thomason and the very stiff-upper-lip General Lutwidge-Douglas, these highly imaginative novels have been very popular with the reading public.

However, Yates' recent revelations and *The Metropolitan's* own investigations have cast a remarkable new light on these stories. Her most recently published work, *Day of the Dinosaurs*, bears a striking resemblance to Yates' description of the evacuation of London ten years ago.

We talked with Sarah Jane Smith not long ago about these and other matters.

She first stated that, as a result of the current situation, she is endeavouring to get permission to publish a revised and highly expanded version of her UNIT history. "Personally I think it's high time that these matters came out in the open," she said with feeling. "Some of these incidents are practically ancient history, and the excuse that we shouldn't alarm the public just doesn't hold water any longer. It wouldn't have been right for me, in my position, to reveal anything, but I can't say I'm unhappy that the truth is out. Besides, they probably wouldn't have believed it coming from me, anyway!"

That comment, naturally enough, led us to query her about the factual basis, if any, for her stories and, in particular, if her WIN (World Investigative Network) organisation was based on UNIT.

Her only response was a taunting "Well, isn't all fiction ultimately based on fact?"

In an unrelated matter, her publisher, Bullseye Press, announced that the next book in her Doctor series will not be *The North Sea Monster*, as previously reported, but instead will be a work tentatively entitled *Sutekh the Destroyer*.

**Kevin W. Parker**



# BRIEF ENCOUNTER

## ~LISTENING WATCH~

When he came back from the coffee machine he found Mike perched silently on the rung stool, feet drawn up, elbows on knees, head in hands, pensively contemplating the white noise breathing out of the RT speaker. The operations room was in semi-darkness, the only light coming from an angle poise lamp on the desk by Mike. The shutter clock over the door clacked on the seconds and rattled as it dropped over two more luminous digits on its face. 11.56. Almost the witching hour.

He thought about turning on the light, but Mike seemed happy in the gloom, and besides, since he was balancing two hot plastic cups and a cluster of chocolate bars, the exercise was potentially difficult and tempted fate.

"Coffee okay, Sir?" he asked, carefully setting down the load on the bench by the RT.

"No tea?" murmured Mike, barely moving.

"No tea. Someone had forgotten to refill the tea and the supplies room is locked. I checked. Sorry."

"Coffee's fine then." Mike sat up a little and smiled thanks at his friend, reaching out for one of the cups.

"Two sugars, was it? I wasn't sure how you liked coffee."

"I don't like coffee. If I did, I probably wouldn't take sugar in it."

"Oh."

"Well, it's got hot water and milk, right? Two out of four isn't bad."

"Sure?" his friend asked, sitting down on the canvas chair next to Mike.

"It's fine." Mike did a mock shudder as he sipped and then winked with a chuckle. "Honest, John, it's fine."

John methodically peeled open a bar of fruit and nut chocolate, folding back the foil and the wrapper and not allowing a scrap of paper to fall as he did so. "Anything then?"

"Oh yes," said Mike, nursing his cup. "I just had L.B.S. on the horn saying that the Yeti were seen boarding the last tube out of Mansion House with singles to Westminster. I thought I'd let you scoff your tuck before I bother you with it."

"Nothing then," said John long-sufferingly, through a bite of chocolate.

"Uh huh."

"Do you reckon it's going to be another one of them then, Sir?"

"Beg pardon?"

"One of them up-all-night, eight-cups-of-coffee, damn-all-happening jobs?"

"Like last week, you mean?" Mike chuckled.

"Exactly like last week. And the

week before." John began folding his empty foil wrapper into a Concorde dart.

"I think your excellent grasp of the situation status reflects the high standards of threat evaluation UNIT spends its training budget equipping you with."

John started on his second bar, the Concorde lost on its maiden flight down the back of the cupboards. "Can I make an observation, off the record?"

"By all means, Sergeant."

"You're a sarcastic bleeder, aren't you? With respect."

"Another fine estimation there, Sergeant. Fancy a hand of pontoon?"

"I thought you were reading your book."

Mike scowled at the copy of *Second Stage Lensman* spreadeagled on the bench. "Can't get into it. I used to like that sort of thing. That was before I met the Doctor and got personal introductions to the real thing."

"Pontoon it is, then," said John, reaching for the cards. The RT warbled, belched and whined. A voice crackled through the static.

"... Greyhound One to HQ, come in, HQ. Repeat, hello HQ. Over."

Mike lifted his handset. "HQ receiving. Go ahead, Sir."

"Yates, is that you? Over."

"Yes, Sir."

"It's happening. Right now. Is Benton with you? Over."

Mike cupped his hands over the transmitter. "It's our glorious leader. You here?"

Laughing, John half-choked on his Marathon.

"Benton's here Sir. Do we mobilise as instructed? Over."

"Yes, damn it, and hurry. And get the reserve watch on the blower. This is serious. I need two full squads down here as fast as the Land-rovers can manage it. I... eh? Yes, yes, Doctor, I'll tell him. Yates? The Doctor says we'll need some heavy duty electric cable, about twelve metres of it, and that *thing* he was working on in the lab yesterday. Can you get it on the back of a flatbed without breaking it? Over."

"Yes Sir. Over."

"Then hurry up. We haven't got all night. To be honest, Yates, I think this one might be a bit too much even for the —" The voice faded away into the haze of white noise.

Mike looked up, anxiously, instructions poised on his lips, but John was already on his feet, sliding a new clip into the butt of his Browning.

"Ready, I see," he said.

"Yes Sir," snapped Benton. "Good old fashioned World-saving again, is it?"

Despite the butterflies that had suddenly woken, urgent, in his stomach, Mike Yates smiled.

"Let's go," he said.

Dan Abnett



Illustration: Brian Williamson



# THE UNIT -Story- PART ONE



The regular army and the Doctor's companion, Jamie, are confronted by the Yeti. Photo © BBC.

"We deal with the odd, the unexplained. Anything on Earth . . . or even beyond . . ."

The Brigadier, *Spearhead from Space* Episode 1.

## THE WEB OF FEAR

The beginnings of UNIT – the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce – came about in late 1967 when a second storyline to feature the Yeti was rapidly written by Mervyn Haisman and Henry Lincoln hot on the heels of the successful *The Abominable Snowmen*. This new serial would be a contemporary thriller using fantasy elements set against a real London backdrop, as with *The War Machines*, and action sequences would call for a group of army soldiers fighting the robotic killers tooth-and-nail in the fogbound capital. To handle this new style of story, incoming producer Peter Bryant acquired the directorial skills of Douglas Camfield. Camfield had cut his teeth as a director on the series in the William Hartnell days, his most recent serial being *The Daleks' Master Plan* over 1965/6.

Originally, noted character actor David Langton (who found fame as Richard Bellamy in LWT's *Upstairs, Downstairs*) was cast to play the principle part of Colonel Lethbridge, the leader of the beleaguered soldiers. When he was forced to drop out of the serial shortly before rehearsals, Camfield 'promoted' an actor called Nicholas Courtney, who had previously been down to play Captain Knight. Camfield also appended the name Stewart to the character's name as written by Haisman

and Lincoln (the name was hyphenated for early serials but often dropped after *Spearhead from Space*). Camfield was keen to convey the Colonel as a real person, principally the well known military figure of "Mad Mitch" who would never ask his men to do anything he was not prepared to do himself. Indeed, like the Colonel, Camfield himself was a stickler for discipline during production of his shows. For the rôle, Courtney sported a false moustache to bring over his military authority as a Colonel of the Scots Guards.

Nicholas Courtney himself was born in Egypt in 1931, the son of a diplomat. Brought up in France, England and Kenya, he started acting soon after National Service and then got involved in Rep, before settling in London in 1961.



He had appeared in Evelyn Waugh's *Sword of Honour* as well as episodes of *The Avengers*, *Softly, Softly* and *The Champions*. Never having reached a higher rank than that of private and having been hospitalised during firearm training, Courtney was very nervous the first time he was called to fire a gun on a location shoot. After failing to get the rôle of King Richard in the 1965 serial *The Crusades*, Camfield gave Courtney the part of Space Security Agent Bret Vyon in four episodes of *The Daleks' Master Plan* and also cast him in a BBC thriller called *Watch The Brides*.



Battling the Yeti in Covent Garden. Photo courtesy of Derek Ware.

The first of the impressive battles which would become a hallmark of the UNIT serials was shot at Covent Garden Market Place one Sunday in December 1967. These sequences were overseen by stunt expert Derek Ware who had been involved with the series since its creation. There was also the chance for the crew to use some real army hardware including a bazooka in the battle against the Yeti.

The first glimpse that viewers had of Lethbridge-Stewart was not actually of Nicholas Courtney. The Colonel's feet appeared towards the end of Episode 2, and on this occasion the boots were filled with the feet of extra Maurice Brooks. The recording sessions with the Colonel covered the last four episodes and were conducted at Lime Grove Studio D weekly from January 27th to February 17th, 1968.

## THE INVASION

*The Web of Fear* obtained quite respectable audiences for the fifth season of the programme, and Peter Bryant was pleased with the finished result. The army ingredient certainly allowed for far more action at a time when pure fantasy shows were on the decline as popular entertainment, and action and adventure series were more the flavour of the day. Outgoing script editor Derrick Sherwin developed a script from an idea by Kit Pedler called *Return of the Cybermen*, which featured the Cybermen invading an Earth of the near future. The story showed how a multi-national combined



◀ military and scientific force could be set up to defend the globe, and this was developed by Bryant, Sherwin and Camfield, who were appointed to direct the new serial, retitled *The Invasion*. Lethbridge Stewart was to return, now as a Brigadier, and this military organisation was given a name, as legend has it, by Camfield himself: UNIT.

One character who was dropped from the new serial was that of Driver Evans, a jovial Welshman played by Derek Pollitt in *The Web of Fear*. Pollitt had been a friend of Haisman's since drama school, and although his performance in the rôle had been excellent, it was felt that the character of Evans could be construed as portraying the Welsh as cowards.

Cast as Benton, a UNIT corporal first seen as an undercover agent, was a young actor called John Levene. Born John Woods in Salisbury, 1941, he had been a male model in London until by chance he met Telly Savalas, who told him he should try acting. After signing up with Dent and DeGray, the young hopeful found himself as an extra in BBC series like *Adam Adamant Lives!* and *The Troubleshooters*. Levene had been a

walk-on for some time when he approached Camfield during a teabreak at the BBC to ask for advice on how to become a full-time actor – which resulted in Camfield casting him in a small rôle in *Z Cars*. He was then cast by Camfield as a Yeti in *The Web of Fear*, and asked back on *The Invasion*, initially to play a Cyberman. While working on these stories, Levene also made particular friends with Frazer Hines who encouraged his career greatly. When the actor who had been originally cast to play Benton was continually late, the authoritarian Camfield fired him and recast Levene. The new character was first seen in a film sequence in Episode One atop the Midland Bank tower on the Thames.

This serial saw a small royalty payment made to Haisman and Lincoln as the creators of Lethbridge Stewart, and such payments – plus those to the creators of UNIT – were made where relevant in subsequent stories. At this time, Peter Bryant was looking to make UNIT a more permanent feature of the series and offered Courtney the chance to join the new team as a regular. Courtney accepted the chance of a

secure job at once. The inclusion of UNIT as a regular feature in the series was chiefly due to the encouragement of Camfield – now a freelance director – and the fact that in-coming producer Derrick Sherwin wanted to bring the show down to Earth and make it akin to Nigel Kneale's 1950's serial about Professor Quatermass. Sherwin had also noted the military and action elements that had made *The Web of Fear* a success.

UNIT was given a whole set of custom made uniforms as opposed to the standard army issue seen in *The Web of Fear*. These were designed by Bobi Bartlett, the incoming costume designer on the series, with the idea that the stories were set a few years in the future. The design for the officers (sergeants and above) was in mushroom and fawn, with the jackets fastened by velcro, plus a fawn shirt and white tie with beret bearing UNIT insignia. Other ranks, such as Benton, sported shirt, trousers and beret, but without the jacket. The boots were standard army issue, and the belts held the UNIT transceiver, the TM45, a tubular device with telescopic aerial and fifty mile range on set frequency. Camfield advised on the design of the uniforms, drawing on his own military background.

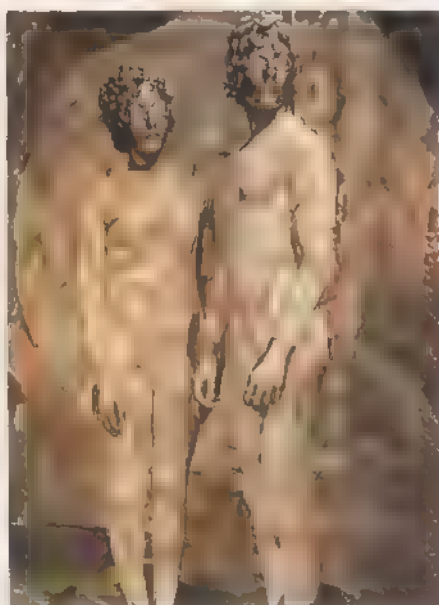
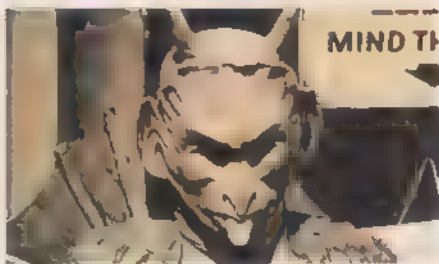
The location filming for the serial saw the first use of the BBC's Outside Broadcast helicopter as a piece of UNIT hardware (although 'copters had featured in *The Enemy of the World* and *Fury from the Deep* these had been hired from outside companies), and story references indicate that UNIT actually had several such vehicles. The filming to date was the most extensive for any *Doctor Who* serial to that time, and help came from both the Army and the RAF including provision of jeeps, Land-rovers, a transporter plane and a three ton lorry. UNIT also had two sinister black Jaguars, used to trail the Doctor and Jamie in London for the first two episodes. The large amount of location material was possible with *The Invasion* being the first serial of a new recording block, and the eight part serial was accorded the largest budget to that time.

The climactic battle at the IE compound between UNIT and the Cybermen was shot at a Guinness Factory in Acton, where the cast and crew were treated to liquid refreshment and Christmas puddings (one of which later exploded!). Here, Camfield managed to obtain permission from the Ministry of Defence to have real soldiers to add authenticity, and the MoD approved the script. The 2nd Battalion of the Coldstream Guards, under Major Courage, appeared with UNIT badges on their berets to handle action sequences with their own hardware for a one day shoot. Other sequences featuring UNIT included the sewer entrance scenes on the Embankment at Blackfriars, and at RAF Northolt Aerodrome where a Hercules Transporter was seen to be the Brigadier's base of operations. One film sequence which was abandoned by Camfield due to lack of time was in Episode Six where Captain Turner and UNIT's full assault platoon were to



Various scenes from *The Invasion* including Cybermen on location, the Doctor and Tobias Vaughn during the final battle with the cyborgs and the Cybermen spaceship scene briefly in Episode Eight which is blown under UNIT instruction. Photo © Pat Gorman (reprinted from the Cybermen book, courtesy of Andrew Skilleter) and BBC respectively.





Above: Stanley Mason as Bok from *The Dæmons*; Doctor Henderson is baffled by the Doctor's body signs in *Spearhead from Space*; and Axon humanoids from *The Claws of Axos*. Above right: a publicity shot for *The Terror of the Autons*, featuring the Brigadier (Nicholas Courtney), the Doctor (Jon Pertwee), Jo Grant (Katy Manning) and the Master (Roger Delgado).



"*The Dæmons*, *Spearhead from Space* and *The Claws of Axos* are my favourite stories. The stunts were all done by people like Terry Walsh and the stuntmen all tried to fall on each other during a shoot – which would really hurt!

"This is an old story but I remember sitting with Katy and the Jewish actor who was playing one of the Draconians [in *Frontier in Space*]. We were sitting in a quarry just before the sun came up and talking about travelling in space and time, astrology – and suddenly it was if we were transported to another planet, as if this wasn't a man in make-up sitting with us.

"Of course it didn't last, the catering people started shouting 'Pies are up!' and we snapped back to reality. It was quite a shock.

"Both Katy and I hated *Day of the Daleks*. I couldn't believe it when the country house was being invaded and people were shouting 'The Daleks are coming!' – all three of them! – and the extras just casually wandered out to their cars . . ."

Jon Pertwee (*The Third Doctor*)

snatch back Professor Watkins from Gregory and the IE guards in a countryside gun battle. Filming took place in early September 1968, with studio work at Lime Grove Studio D on a weekly basis from September 20th to November 8th, 1968.

In the finished story, UNIT was referred to as being established since the Yeti affair four years earlier (making the year around 1975), and although the Brigadier was accountable to an old friend from Sandhurst, Major General Billy Rutledge, at the Ministry of Defence – he could go to his own superiors at UNIT Central Command in Geneva if necessary. UNIT's power was limited, and as such the Brigadier was keen to use a free agent such as the

Doctor to get into the IE buildings and find Watkins. At this stage, UNIT was primarily an undercover security organisation with agents such as the lorry driver encountered by the Doctor in Episode One. It also seemed to employ seconded RAF personnel as well as Army, since the pilot of UNIT's base was one Wing-Commander Robbins.

## SPEARHEAD FROM SPACE

Around the time of transmission of *The Invasion*, it seemed that if *Doctor Who* was to continue, UNIT would now be an integral part. As early as November 1968, Terrance Dicks approached Robert Holmes to develop an initial

storyline about the Doctor's exile and have this on standby for when the new season was guaranteed.

For *Spearhead from Space*, it was necessary to introduce a new female sidekick for the Doctor, and Derrick Sherwin developed the character of Elizabeth Shaw, a research scientist brought in by UNIT as their adviser. Caroline John, who filled the role, had done much work with the National Theatre Company when her agent advised her to try for more TV appearances. A photograph of the actress was sent in to the BBC, and eventually after some readings Peter Bryant and Derrick Sherwin cast her as Liz. Caroline John threw herself into her work by looking up the scientific



terminology she used in dictionaries but objected to her costumes which she felt would not be worn by a Cambridge research scientist. For UNIT, additional costumes were made by Christine Rawlins based on *The Invasion* design.

Image © BBC.



Episode 1 featured a female officer from UNIT who wore beige shirt and skirt and had a UNIT emblem on her tie.

The serial was a great favourite of the director, Derek Martinus, who had directed several serials since 1965. Although keen to move on to new shows, he found that Holmes' script was excellent and the serial as a whole was a challenge. The only member of UNIT to return was the Brigadier, with Courtney having appeared in *Callan* and *Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)* in the meantime.

One uncredited member of UNIT to appear was Derrick Sherwin as the guard in the car park. Still holding an Equity card after years of acting, Sherwin stepped into the part during location filming at King's Cross Station cargo premises, which appeared as the now earthbound UNIT HQ in the serial. Although this was to be Sherwin's final serial as producer before he moved on to *Paul Temple* with Peter Bryant, he was delighted that more use of film work was to be made since this could improve the chances of a sale to America for syndication.

Image © BBC.



With the loss of colour videotape facilities due to a strike in the BBC four weeks before shooting began, all the interior scenes had to be executed on film on location. Most of these, including the UNIT interiors, were executed at the BBC's own Engineering Training Centre at Evesham. The main battle sequences against the Autons at the AutoPlastics factory saw a return for Courtney to the Guinness Factory on Western Avenue, which by now was leased to the BBC for use in industrial drama. UNIT's resources were more limited than in *The Invasion*, with a single Land Rover used alongside the Brigadier's staff saloon car, which would appear sporadically until *The Dæmons*.

After a five week shoot from early September to mid-October 1969, the first colour adventure was complete.

On the subject of continuity, UNIT's new liaison with the regular army was now Major General Scobie, and the additional troops in Episode 4 for the battle sequence were supposed to be from the regular army. Captain Munro is also identified as being in the army, although on attachment to UNIT.

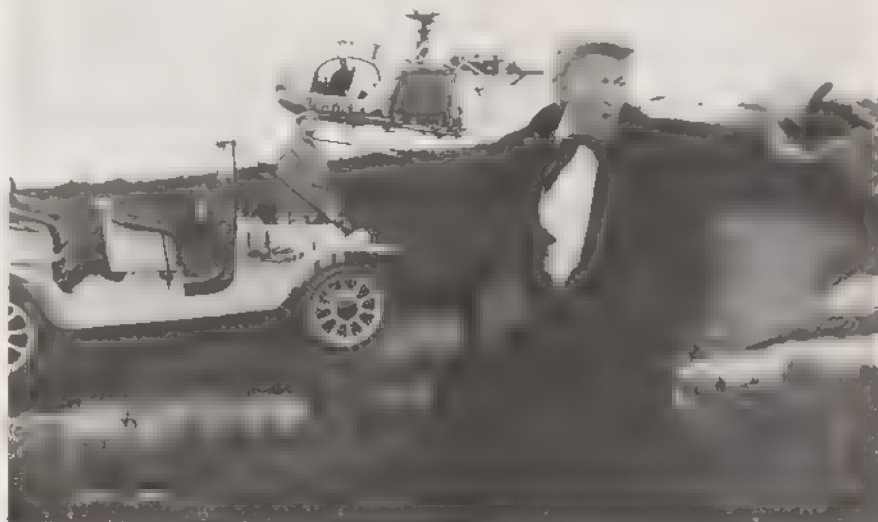
## DOCTOR WHO AND THE SILURIANS

During the production of *Spearhead from Space*, Pertwee's Doctor had driven a red vintage Packard, and the actor himself felt this was a good mode of transport for the Earthbound character. With the Packard's owner reluctant to allow its regular use, a new vehicle was allocated to the show. This was a customised Ford Popular made by Glentura Plastics of Salisbury and

purchased from Siva/Neville Trickett (Design) Ltd of Blandford Down. Jon Pertwee himself took delivery of MTR5 (or WHO 1 as its number plates in the show read) and special effects put extra touches to the car after its purchase in October 1969.

Work on the second serial, *Doctor Who and the Silurians*, was also delayed by a strike at the BBC, and its execution fell to BBC staff director Timothy Combe who began his cold five day location shoot in Buckinghamshire after turning down a job on *Z Cars*. This was during late October 1969 just as the new producer, Barry Letts, was joining the show. Letts was actually the second choice for the post, being another BBC staff director who directed *The Enemy of the World*. The first choice, Douglas Camfield, had turned down the job when it had been offered to him.

For the location sequences, the BBC OB-copter G-AWFL (hired from Heliunion Ltd) was again pressed into



UNIT spells action: Bessie, the Doctor's Edwardian roadster, the Brigadier and the UNIT helicopter were all hallmarks of the Pertwee years. Photo (*Doctor Who and the Silurians*) © BBC.



The Doctor found himself at odds with UNIT methods when the Brigadier ordered the destruction of the Silurians caves. Photo (showing the Doctor imprisoned by the Silurians) © BBC.



## Behind the Scenes....

service and written into Malcolm Hulke's scripts by Dicks and Combe. A Land-rover also appeared as the extent of UNIT's travel resources. The Brigadier was seen to exhibit karate training as he chopped down Roberts in Episode 1 and was still using a TM45 radio in Episodes 3 and 6. Combe also cast one of his old acting friends, Paul Darrow, in the role of Sergeant Hawkins, then elevating the character to the rank of Captain. Darrow was to return to the show in 1985 in *Timelash* having risen to stardom as Avon in Terry Nation's space adventure *Blake's 7*. Studio recording in TCs 1, 3 and 8 at the BBC Television Centre took place on December 8th, 15th, 21st and 22nd, 1969 plus January 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, 1970.

As the Seventh Season began transmission in January 1970, a photo call was arranged for Jon Pertwee, Nicholas Courtney and Caroline John with Bessie in London on January 13th, 1970. Caroline John had also had a publicity session when she was cast as Liz back on September 10th 1969.

### THE AMBASSADORS OF DEATH

The next serial, *The Ambassadors of Death* had undergone several rewrites since its original storyline was submitted by David Whitaker early in 1968 for the Doctor, Jamie and Zoe. Malcolm Hulke was given the job of taking the six episode story and expanding it to seven, adding the new Doctor, Liz and UNIT along the way. Unfortunately, Whitaker was unhappy with the final result.

Photo © BBC.



This was the first serial to formally employ the stunt organisation known as HAVOC. HAVOC had been around since the mid-1960s when it had been formed by Derek Ware with the help of Terry Walsh. Whole action sequences could thus be co-ordinated, and the stuntmen available for freelance TV work would now have representing agents. Six stuntmen were hired for the new serial and HAVOC contributed to all episodes except Episode 6.

Further script changes were made by Michael Ferguson, the director, and the HAVOC stunt team to accommodate more action for UNIT. The highlight of the filmed sequences is the hi-jacking of Recovery 7 in Episode 2, which in the script originally consisted of an ambush with a fake policeman and a Land-rover of heavies. The finished version used the BBC's helicopter (G-AWFL again), four motorcycles, a low loader and gas guns in a sequence worthy of a feature film. It took two days to shoot on

country roads near Uxbridge, and the biggest stunt was Roy Scammell's fall from the helicopter as a UNIT soldier. For this serial, new UNIT costumes were made which only featured on *The Ambassadors of Death*. Keeping true to Bobi Bartlett's original ideas, Christine Rawlins had a new jacket made for all ranks apart from the Brigadier. This was a zip-up arrangement without lapels, and was worn over a rolled neck sweater to give a futuristic look.

Episode 3's climax was nerve-racking for Caroline John. Although she enjoyed the serial, she was called upon to drive Bessie and had not actually passed her driving test. The climax of

the chase by Regan's men saw Liz almost fall into a weir, for which Caroline was doubled by one of the HAVOC stunt men.

Southall Gasworks in North London appeared for several of the action sequences as Regan overpowered UNIT guards at the Space Centre HQ. The battle between the UNIT troops and Carrington's men in Episode 1 was filmed back at the Acton Guinness Factory, and UNIT hardware such as Land-rovers were again much in evidence. Six stuntmen were again used, with Terry Walsh hiring additional men from Militar, a group who specialised in extras who appeared to be in the armed



The bodies of the drivers, killed by a radiation overdose, who helped kidnap the alien ambassadors in *The Ambassadors of Death* are dumped in a gravel pit. Photos © The Maidenhead Advertiser.





The Doctor working on the TARDIS console in *Inferno*. Photo © BBC.

forces. Another gun battle between the Brigadier, three UNIT soldiers and Regan's heavies was also shot for Episode 7. The filmed material was shot over the last few days of January and the first few days of February 1970.

The other notable aspect of the serial was a melodious theme for UNIT composed by Dudley Simpson, the first true customised score since a short section by Don Harper for *The Invasion*. Little of UNIT HQ was seen, most notably the Doctor's new laboratory, the cell area and the radio room manned by Parker and Benton – the latter now promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Studio recording for *The Ambassadors of*

*Death* was on a weekly basis from February 15th to March 27th, 1970.

## INFERNO

Douglas Camfield returned to the helm to realise Don Houghton's *Inferno*. Extensive location filming was required for the story, set at the Stahlman's Gas drilling project, and the film crew shot from 31st March to 3rd April 1970 at Berry Wiggins Co. Ltd, Hoo in Kent – manufacturers of bitumen. Camfield had initially left *Doctor Who* and had been working on *Paul Temple*, but was lured back to the series by the nightmarish action/disaster movie script. He cast his

wife, Sheila Dunn, as Petra Williams – an action he had performed in the past on both *The Daleks' Master Plan*. *The Feast of Steven* and *The Invasion*.

Stuntmen on hand for the action scenes included Alan Chuntz, Roy Scammell, Terry Walsh and Stuart Fell. It was Chuntz and Fell who cured Pertwee of his fear of heights, taking him to the top of a 150 foot high gasometer and walking him around its roof for fifteen minutes. HAVOC arranged many of the stunts for both UNIT and the alternative universe counterparts, the RSF (Republican Security Forces). As usual, UNIT sported M1 rifles which were dummy props, and – apart from the Brigadier who retained his regular uniform – were clad in combat gear throughout. Scammell gave another spectacular fall from a gasometer as RSF Private Wyatt, landing himself in the *Gunness Book of Records* for plummeting such a distance.

During rehearsals at an Old Boy's club, Douglas Camfield collapsed. Although a very fit man, who had trained for the Territorial Army in Snowdon before joining the BBC, he was troubled by a heart flutter which struck suddenly. However, he was a meticulous planner, and when Barry Letts took over the remainder of the studio taping, he was able to use all Camfield's set ups and only had to direct the final studio day from scratch. The recording dates in TC3 were April 24th, May 6th, 8th, 21st and 22nd with a final session in TC6 on May 29th, 1970.

It was now that Barry Letts and Jon Pertwee felt that the character of Liz was not suitable for the family show – she was too adult and scientific. Temperamentally, Caroline John was very serious and intense and her working relationship with Jon Pertwee was not close. By mutual agreement her contract was not renewed after production completed, and Liz left the series without a proper departure scene.

## TERROR OF THE AUTONS

Not only did the series need a new female character, but Barry Letts also felt that the Brigadier would have a



The Doctor and Jo Grant on the trail of the Master in *Terror of the Autons*. Photo © BBC.

"I loved all my stories, *The Mind of Evil* in particular, but I didn't enjoy twisting my ankle during filming for the *Terror of the Autons*. I jumped from a car on the first day – wearing flat shoes, mind! – and I tripped. I knew I'd hurt my foot when we did the shot again. The rest of the team really teased me about it and I thought I'd been fired!

"I also forgot to limp like I had been doing on location during the studio recording! From then on I wore six foot platforms and never did any damage. I was so nervous I learnt everyone's lines – the Doctor's, the Brigadier's, everyone's. I think I learnt mine . . ."

Katy Manning (Jo Grant)



Photo © BBC.

Captain, not a Sergeant, as his right-hand man. Thus he and Terrance Dicks created Captain Mike Yates, a dashing young officer who would also provide romantic interest for the new young UNIT agent assigned to help the Doctor – Josephine Grant. Jo would be the total opposite of Liz, scatterbrained and carefree. By *The Curse of Peladon* she



was dating Mike Yates, and indeed Sarah Jane was later to comment on the Captain's charm and looks in *Invasion of the Dinosaurs*.



Katy Manning as Jo Grant. Photo © BBC.

Richard Franklin narrowly beat a young actor called Ian Marter for the role of Yates. Starting his career as a clerk at an advertising agency, he was persuaded to go to RADA and was invited to audition for the Captain's part after Barry Letts saw him in a West End show. Young Katy Manning was the last to audition for the character of Jo but despite her short-sightedness managed to beat off about three hundred other applicants for the job. The luckless actress was not allowed to wear her spectacles as UNIT's newest recruit and sprained her ankle whilst running on the first day's shooting in the third week of September 1970.

Letts also took the opportunity to update UNIT's uniforms and discussed the realistic approach to the job with the War Office. The authorities told him that such an organisation would wear standard army uniforms but with blue United Nations flashes and berets. In the end, UNIT were issued with standard green army uniforms emblazoned with the UNIT logo on the beret, and the UNIT motif on the left sleeve as before. It was around this time that the Ministry of Defence congratulated Letts on the character of the Brigadier – a great compliment for Courtney, who was also pleased with the new UNIT costumes created by Ken Trew which were less restrictive than the original Bobi Bartlett ones.

Filming on the first serial of the new season, *Terror of the Autons* began with Barry Letts directing. The main action sequence for UNIT by HAVOC was in a battle against the Auton Dafodil men at the Beacon Hill radio telescope, a climax shot at a GPO station near Dunstable. A scene where UNIT tackled two Auton policemen was shot at a gravel pit in West London and the Brigadier and Yates put in an appearance at Robert Brother's Circus south of Edmonton. The Brigadier's personal transport for this serial became a blue Austin Maxi, and a standard UNIT Land-rover was also seen in Episode Four. For the new season, Terry Walsh suggested that the

UNIT personnel should practice karate, but Letts felt that the defensive art of aikido was more suitable and sent Richard Franklin to the BBC's aikido club. The art was seldom practiced in the series.

Studio sessions for *Terror of the Autons* took place in TC6 on October 9th/10th and TC3 on October 23rd/24th, 1970. UNIT allocated the Doctor another new laboratory, alongside a canal, and there was now mention of scientific supplies run by a Scot called Mr. Campbell. The TM45 – now silver in colour – was still in evidence as Yates handed one to Jo in Part Four.

The new UNIT/Doctor team were soon to become a close-knit crew both on and off-screen. John Levene was initially in awe of Jon Pertwee when they first met for rehearsals on *The Ambassadors of Death* at Old Oak Road, Acton but soon it became usual for Levene to take a bus to Pertwee's home on the day of rehearsals, and from there they would drive to collect Katy Manning.



A brief UNIT regular: Fernanda Marlowe as Corporal Bell. Photo © BBC.

## THE MIND OF EVIL

The subsequent story, *The Mind of Evil*, saw a new UNIT HQ, a building in the heart of London at 24, Cornwall Gardens in South Kensington. Here, Benton's role was increased when the original actor sent to trail Captain Chin Lee was taken ill. The most spectacular UNIT set piece though was the storming of Stangmoor Prison in Episode Five which was shot at Dover Castle. For this, the production team had the help of the Royal Marines as well as twelve stunt men from HAVOC over a two day shoot. Director Timothy Combe plotted all the action carefully and even appeared himself in the material that was shot. In the finished product, Dudley Simpson revived his UNIT theme from *The Ambassadors of Death*, but this time in a more synthesized form.

In another film sequence, Richard Franklin managed to destroy the motorbike he was riding after a stunt scene, and filming was also delayed due to

injuries amongst the cast and stunt crews. John Levene was injured during the hi-jacking scene in Episode Four. The missile scenes also saw help given by the RAF, after Letts had let slip how accommodating the army had been with *The Invasion* – and a ground-to-air missile doubled as the Thunderbolt. The serial went so far over budget – even more expensive than *The Invasion* – that it precluded Combe from returning to *Doctor Who*. Some of the film sequences planned for late October early November were thus curtailed, and so the temporary UNIT HQ became a studio set, instead of being executed on location. Likewise, initial shots of Yates and Benton with the Thunderbolt were achieved in the studio by CSO.

The BBC helicopter G-AWLC was again, used as UNIT's transport in Episodes Five and Six where it whisked the Doctor and Jo to safety from Stanham Airfield. Land-rovers and jeeps also appeared in use by UNIT in film sequences.

*The Mind of Evil* also saw the introduction of a short-lived UNIT character. This was Corporal Bell, the Brigadier's aide in London. She was played by Fernanda Marlowe, then the wife of guest star William Marlowe who took the role of Harry Maiter. She made her second and final appearance in Episode One of the subsequent story, *The Claws of Axos*. The studio days for *The Mind of Evil* were November 20th/21st in TC3, plus December 4th/5th and 18th/19th, 1970. The new UNIT headquarters in Central London were depicted by an office for the Brigadier and an external Ops room. In the story, UNIT were handling security arrangements for the first ever World Peace Conference.

## THE CLAWS OF AXOS

Filming on Michael Ferguson's four episode story got underway in the first week of January 1971 in the freezing cold at Dungeness on the Kent coastline. The lack of light and poor weather conditions meant numerous changes to the script. Close to the atomic power station which doubled as the Nuton complex, the BBC's Outside Broadcast



Photo © BBC

van appeared as UNIT's mobile operations HQ. Coloured tape was used to cover the BBC logo on the vehicle's side. Also used as UNIT transport were three Land-rovers, a lorry and some motor cycles. One day was devoted to shooting the action sequence in Episode Four where Yates and Benton are attacked in the Land-rover by three Axons, with Derek Ware and camera-▶



man A.A. Englander deftly arranging the lead up to the vehicle's destruction on behalf of the HAVOC team.

*The Claws of Axos* completed recording at the Television Centre in TC3 on January 22nd/23rd and TC4 on February 5th/6th, 1971. The same office for the Brigadier was retained, and the Ops room was expanded to show a radar tracking area with TV monitor link ups to ICBM strike command. Agent Bill Filer was sent over from Washington HQ to learn about the Master, and it was stated that UNIT was not part of the Ministry of Defence, despite their enquiry during the story led by Chinn. UNIT HQ also had alarm lamps in the corridors and the Brigadier's office which flashed at the detection of the UFO.

It was now that the liaison with HAVOC for UNIT stories was ended as Barry Letts came to the decision that the stunts were not reasonable value for money. In future, Terry Walsh would continue to be contacted regarding action sequences and doubling for Jon Pertwee, but the production team no longer went through the HAVOC agency.

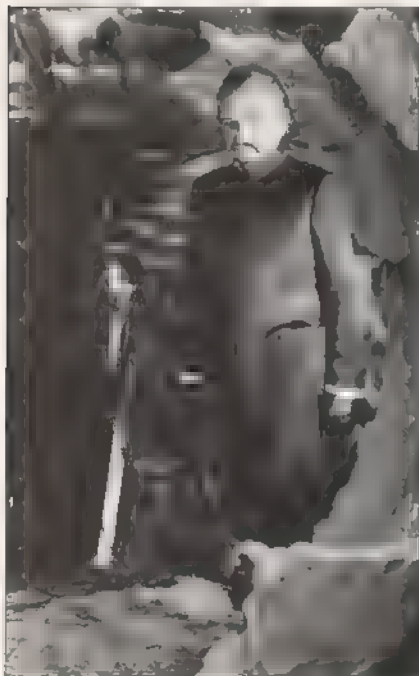


Photo © Don Smith

## COLONY IN SPACE

*Colony in Space* saw the TARDIS operating again albeit under the control of the Time Lords – and the Doctor and Jo were soon facing danger on an alien world. The UNIT-format was all but abandoned, save for scenes in the UNIT lab in Episodes One and Six. Recorded on the same day – March 5th, 1971 – the only UNIT character apart from Jo to feature was the Brigadier. The only UNIT set to appear was the Doctor's lab. This was a new design, although clearly featured the door used in *Terror of the Autons*, now in a new position.

## THE DÆMONS

The final serial of the the Eighth Season was *The Dæmons*, a firm favourite of all



## UNIT CALLING

A variety of different call signs have been used by UNIT over the years. In *The Invasion*, the aircraft base was identified as **UNIT Control**, which continued into stories such as *The Ambassadors of Death* as that of UNIT HQ. In this last serial and *Doctor Who and the Silurians*, the Brigadier's personal call sign was **UNIT Leader** or **UNIT Commander** whilst Captain Hawkins used the handle of **Watchdog**. The helicopter searching Wenley Moor was **Windmill 123** whilst the one which overflew Stangmoor in *The Mind of Evil* was **Windmill 347**.

The best remembered call signs were established in *Terror of the Autons* with the Brigadier usually referred to as **Greyhound**, also **Greyhound One** in *The Green Death* and *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* and **Greyhound Leader** in *Robot* and *Terror of the Zygons*. **Greyhound Two** was used by the Brigadier at Mobile HQ in *The Dæmons*, Yates in *Day of the Daleks* and Benton in *The Time Monster*, whilst **Greyhound Three** was Yates' Convoy in *The Time Monster* and one of the other UNIT teams in *The Green Death*. **Greyhound Four** was Jo's signal when trapped in *The Green Death* and **Greyhound Seven** was referred to in *The Mind of Evil* as watching Stangmoor Prison.

To complement the Greyhound signs, other UNIT personnel were accorded **Trap** signs. **Trap One** was Jo at HQ in *Terror of the Autons*, Major Cosworth at Mobile HQ in *The Mind of Evil*, Captain Yates in *The Claws of Axos*, Benton in *Robot*, and UNIT HQ in *Day of the Daleks* and *The Green Death*. **Trap Two** was Yates in *The Dæmons* and Benton at UNIT's temporary HQ in *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* whilst **Trap Three** was used by Benton in *The Dæmons*.

The other call signs used by UNIT were heard during *The Mind of Evil* as the Thunderbolt Missile was taken for dumping. Here the Brigadier at base was **Jupiter** whilst Yates, with the convoy, was **Venus**.

For UNIT's revival in *Battlefield*, the Brigadier retained his callsign of **Greyhound** whilst Brigadier Bambera was **Seabird One**, the nuclear convoy was **Salamander Six Zero** and the UNIT helicopter was **Uniform November Nine Zero**.

those who worked on it and often hailed as the classic example of a UNIT serial. For the story developed by Barry Letts with playwright Robert Sloman, extra filming allocation was made of a two week shoot in April 1971 using a multiple three camera system. The first week the crew were based at Marlborough saw glorious sunshine. The second week saw a fall of snow. The majority of the shooting was executed at Aldebourne in Wiltshire which featured as Devil's End.

A BBC two-man helicopter was used as the Brigadier's personal transport borrowed by Yates and Benton, and with a film camera on board it was also directed by Christopher Barry from the ground via walkie-talkie. This time the 'copter bore false identification in the form of G-UNIT. For its destruction in

Episode Three, Barry's team experimented with hanging a flash charge from it and filming the detonation. When this was found to be less than successful, stock footage of a 'copter exploding was purchased and edited in. The OB van again appeared as UNIT's mobile HQ in Episodes Three to Five, along with several Land-rovers and the staff car for the Brigadier.

UNIT's artillery was also seen in force, but although the television and film armoury firm of Baptys provided rifles, pistols and blank ammunition as usual, the UNIT bazooka used by Benton on Bok was a visual effects prop. Effects also gave Lethbridge Stewart the prop swagger stick which burst into flames as it brushed against the heat barrier in Episode Two.

Richard Franklin was terrified of





Yates contacts the Brigadier in *The Dæmons*, watched by the white witch Miss Hawthorne (Damaris Hayman), Jo and the Doctor. Photo © BBC.

"Lunches on a fine day in the mobile canteen with all the cast – that's what I recall. As for favourite stories, *Planet of the Spiders*, *The Dæmons* – Nick and I re-wrote the end of that – and *The Green Death* come to mind. Would I play the role again? Definitely. I've never stopped!"

Richard Franklin (Yates)

riding the motorcycle in Episode Three after his crash in *The Mind of Evil*, and so for close-ups the bike was mounted on the top of a van for filming. In long shots, stuntman Stuart Fell portrayed Captain Yates. The chase sequence was shot at an airfield at Membury just off the M4, which was also the real location of the UNIT garages seen in Episode One.

For this serial, Terrance Dicks felt that perhaps the Brigadier should be given a wife called Fiona, or that when the Brigadier was woken up in bed the telephone handpiece should be passed to him by a woman's hand. Nicholas

Courtney was not so keen on the idea. The story saw the UNIT regulars out of uniform for once, and Letts was very keen to portray the soldiers as also being ordinary people. UNIT were seen to relax in the duty room which boasted a colour television set, on which specially filmed footage plus stock film of a Twickenham rugby match was shown for the entertainment of Yates and Benton.

Some fight sequences were executed in the studio, including one where Benton had to fight one of the Morris Men in the Cloven Hoof during Episode

Four. The antagonist locked in combat with John Levene was veteran stuntman Peter Diamond and during the recording Levene fell painfully on an ashtray. During Levene's other studio fight with John Joyce, the gun Benton and Garvin were struggling over broke. *The Dæmons* concluded the eighth season and recording block, in studio TC4 on May 11th and 19th, and studio TC3 for May 26th, 1971.

With UNIT a highly successful element of the series, it was suggested that a spin-off series showing the Brigadier and his men combatting threats too humanity could be developed, with the title *The Men from UNIT* being suggested. However, with petrol costs ever increasing and large action sequences being an essential ingredient it was clear that such a BBC series would prove too expensive.

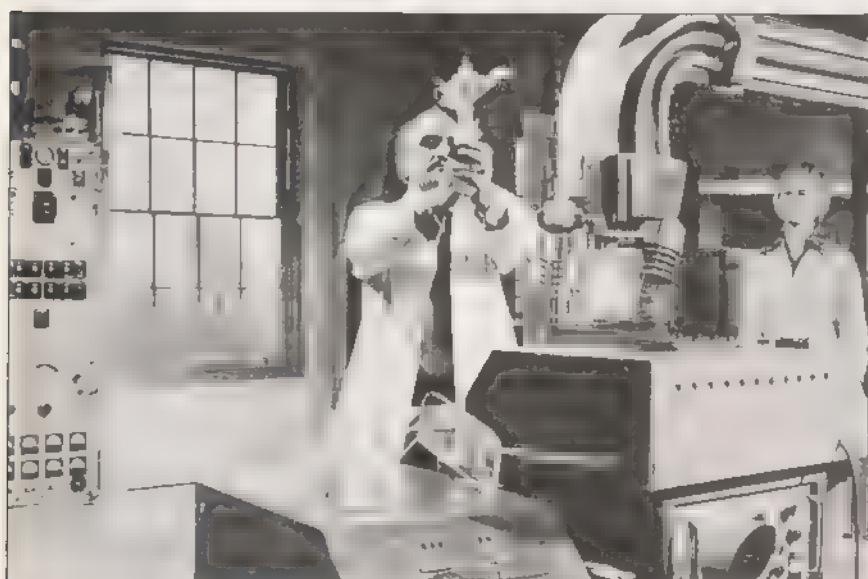
## DAY OF THE DALEKS

*Day of the Daleks*, the first tale of the new season, gave a mixture of a traditional tale in the UNIT format, and a time travel adventure into the future for the Doctor and Jo. UNIT were thus eliminated almost entirely from Episode Three of the story. Location shooting took place in September 1971 at Gunnersbury Park in Chiswick, London and at the Brentford Canal, which represented Auderley House and the tunnel from which the Daleks, Ogrons and guerillas emerged to the twentieth century. Paul Bernard realised several action sequences for Episodes One, Two and Four on location, but was ultimately disappointed by the climactic battle between UNIT and three Daleks. UNIT's transport resources were also depleted to a single Land-rover, mounted with a sterling machine gun for ▶



Above: Stanley Mason prepares for a scene as Bok in *The Dæmons* and left, the Master impersonates the local priest, calling himself Mr. Magister.





The Brigadier, Jo Grant, Captain Mike Yates (Richard Franklin) and the Doctor find themselves pitted against the Master once more in *The Time Monster*. Photos © BBC.

the Brigadier to use in Episode Two. The Brigadier was also the final member of UNIT to carry on using the TM45 radio. Yates used a standard walkie-talkie in the serial. Franklin, Levene and Courtney were all back in action, the latter having shot an episode of *Jason King* over the summer.

*Day of the Daleks* was recorded in TC4 on October 4th/5th and TC8 on October 18th/19th, 1971. This saw yet another new lab where the Doctor could dismantle the TARDIS console, test disintegrator guns and meet himself. There was also a new UNIT Ops room, and mention was made of a closed canteen. The direct link to Geneva HQ meant that a klaxon sounded throughout the headquarters during an emergency, as it did presumably in all UNIT National Headquarters worldwide.

## THE TIME MONSTER

Levene was also making appearances in *Callan*, *The Regiment* and *The Adventurer* around this time, as well as accompanying Jon Pertwee around the

country on the star's cabaret tours as his personal driver. Benton was to feature in some of the pre-filming for the final story of the season, *The Time Monster*, at Ealing – although here Benton was played by Darren Plant, a baby portraying the sergeant after the effects of the TOMTIT field had sent him back to infancy.

The principle UNIT action sequence was the attack on the convoy bringing the TARDIS to Wooton by all manner of images dragged through time by the Master. Shot outside Reading, there were problems when stuntman Greg Powell broke his leg whilst playing the knight on horseback. Powell attempted to claim damages against the BBC for negligence, but the claim was not upheld. For the scenes at the Newton Institute, the Brigadier and Benton arrived by UNIT Land-rover. A second Land-rover led Yates' convoy followed by two lorries, one of which carried the TARDIS. In this story, the Brigadier was also to make the final use of his TM45.

In studio for *The Time Monster* all the

UNIT sequences were recorded in the first two sessions, including the short amount of material to conclude Episode Six. These took place on April 25th/26th and May 9th/10th, 1972. The Doctor gained yet another new laboratory different again to the one glimpsed in *The Mutants*, whilst the Brigadier's office was now restricted to close-up shots of Courtney at a desk with map behind him (as in *Terror of the Autons*). UNIT were now official observers at scientific demonstrations such as the TOMTIT trials at the Newton Institute.

## THE THREE DOCTORS

The next season also held only two serials to feature UNIT personnel apart from Jo, and in the first of these the standard UNIT format was to take on a far more fantastic angle. *The Three Doctors* was designed as the tenth anniversary story to reunite the actors who had so far taken on the mantle of the hero, and began as a standard Earthbound UNIT serial. For these scenes, exterior filming was executed for UNIT HQ at a disused Ministry of Defence turned youth hostel building at Haylings House, Tilehouse Lane, Denham, Bucks. These included the battle sequences between UNIT and the creatures formed from Omega's organism.

Other action scenes to feature the UNIT personnel were shot in a freezing cold chalk pit in Rickmansworth during November 1972. The new UNIT laboratory used by the Doctor was also the subject of special effects work for the first recording session in TCI on 27th/28th November 1972. For the story, Omega's organism had to cause the TARDIS' surroundings to vanish. All the laboratory scenes were recorded at the end of the studio, and the props were removed one by one before a locked-off camera. Recording for the serial concluded on December 12th, 1972.

John Levene was delighted to work with Patrick Troughton again. Dudley Simpson reused his electronic theme for Bessie which he had introduced in *The Time Monster*. The UNIT elements of the programme were proving more difficult to include in the stories, a fact bemoaned by writer Bob Baker. ♦



Photo © BBC.

Continued on  
Page 38...





# THE ALIEN COVER-UP EXPOSED



Undercover: John Benton & Mike Yates in Edinburgh during the The Zygon Gambit incident. Photo © Richard Walter.

## Tim Leith talks to the man who claims UNIT defends the Earth from flying saucers...

When ex-army Captain and founder of the Cosmic Earth Society Mike Yates published his first book *Help From The Stars*, he caused a minor sensation. His claims that human evolution had been artificially accelerated by the intervention of extra-terrestrial visitors were met with scepticism and ridicule from every quarter, not least my own 'Weekending' column in *The Metropolitan*. So it came as something of a surprise when I was invited to visit the home of the CES, deep in the English countryside, to discuss his claims further.

At first I was reluctant, but this only seemed to encourage him. "If I can convince *you* I'm genuine, perhaps there's hope for humanity yet," he told me on the phone. When he added that he used to work for the elusive UNIT organisation, my interest heightened, particularly in view of our magazine's ongoing investigation into its activities. I quickly arranged a meeting. Even if the man did remind me of that illustrious eccentric Mr David Icke, the trip to the countryside would at least get me out of the office. I thought. Little did I know how interesting the trip was going to be...

From its winding approach the Mount Royal Meditation Centre, home to the twenty-four strong pseudo-Buddhist

sect, still looks very much like the monastery it once was. Apart from the unobtrusive satellite dish on its roof it could even be described as picturesque, exuding an air of tranquillity. Ornately carved oak doors bar the entrance. The windows are small, surrounded by ancient ivy, overlooking huge but extremely tidy grounds, serviced by the sect themselves.

I was met by Brother Halliday, a slightly balding, jolly chap, who told me his father was a Martian and he has just had a very interesting chat with an alien from Alpha Centauri. Not an auspicious start to what I hoped was to be a serious exposé of a quasi-government organisation! In a book-lined study Halliday introduced me to Mike Yates (he hates being called Michael) and left us to it. Sipping a cup of lemon tea, dressed in an immaculate white suit, Yates nodded after my impromptu doorman. "Mad as a hatter," he said, grinning, "But he's one of the world's foremost electronics experts. If anyone's going to contact an alien it will be someone like him." I didn't bother to mention that Halliday had told me he already had.

Yates promptly launched into a discussion which revealed that he has, or thinks he has, met more than his fair share of extra terrestrial beings. He also asserts that there is proof to support all his claims, including those in *Help From*

*The Stars* which state that from earliest times it seems man has had assistance in his development, a belief which forms the basis of the Cosmic Earth Society's work.

"The proof is impossible to ignore," Yates says calmly. His eyes do not burn with the intensity of a religious fanatic's when he speaks. "Our own researchers continue to turn up more evidence every day but you should already be familiar with the most obvious ones, wonderful pieces of engineering that have survived, proving that primitive man had outside help. Stonehenge for example, the Pyramids, all great technical feats of engineering that man could not have built using his own initiative. Our ancestors only succeeded with such projects because they had help from superior beings. They were given a knowledge beyond their age. Unfortunately man lacked the maturity to use this for the good of all, and instead let greed, and the desire for power, corrupt this 'boost' to our development. This corruption has spanned the centuries until now when we find ourselves with a planet that is in turmoil and chaos."

Which is where the Cosmic Earth Society comes in to save the planet. But how did an ex-army regular come to be running his own quasi-religious cult?

"To start with, religion doesn't come into it. Everything I believe in is scientific fact, but I suppose the origins of the group go back to a time I spent in a Tibetan Meditation Centre. That's what I've tried to recreate here really, although without the religious aspect. I was recuperating after what had been described as a nervous breakdown. That was the reason I was discharged from the army. *Forced* out because of one mistake in fact - they called it medical discharge. What it meant was that I was left alone to re-build my life. Until then the army had been my life, my world. I'd never done anything else



Cover-up: UNIT operative John Benton snapped here with Mike Yates on his American tour earlier this year, attempting to persuade the CES leader into silence about the organisation's activities.

"Anyway, I had a lot of time to think and slowly, piece by piece, it all began to come together. All the experience I'd gained in the forces was part of a larger





The eccentric UNIT advisor Doctor John Smith, photographed here alongside workers from the aborted Inferno project in late 1975.

plan I realised then that I had been chosen to welcome our alien benefactors on their return I had to bring together like-minded people, and create an atmosphere where, through chanting and meditation, we could try to redress the balance of man and nature. After one particular experience in the Tibetan Meditation centre I also realised that by tuning the combined mental energies of a number of committed people to the correct wavelength it was possible to contact the entity, an alien power as opposed to a God, who controls the life-cycle of man and his development. Making that contact is the primary aim of the Cosmic Earth Society."

In his book and again in conversation Yates claims he came into contact with alien beings during his time in the armed forces. Was he really saying that he himself had experienced a close encounter of the third kind with a little green man?

"Not just *one* encounter – several in fact. Shortly after I'd been promoted to captain I was seconded to UNIT. [The United Nations Intelligence Taskforce]. I was vetted very thoroughly, more so than I would have been for any other regiment. When they were sure I was suitable I was sent to Geneva where I received an intensive briefing on their objectives.

"UNIT is not just an anti-terrorist squad or the unofficial 'World Bomb Squad' the disarmament lobby labelled it, back when their work was more high profile. Most of its work is highly dangerous and since they re-grouped a few years ago, very secretive, they still defuse nuclear warheads but most of the time they're out there [he waves his arm in a south-easterly direction, towards Dover], a multi-national taskforce defending Earth from hostile forces from *beyond our solar system*. I was briefed on previous encounters when I joined – Bug Hunts, they call them these days – and on how UNIT had defeated them."

He paused to let this sink in. "I know you find this hard to believe, so did I at first. Shortly after my Geneva briefing I was stationed in the United Kingdom as second in command to Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart. My immediate

subordinate was a Sergeant Benton and we had various scientific assistants assigned to us, including Jo Grant. She's married now but I think it was her uncle who was a pretty big wheel in the Defence Ministry – that's how she got the job. She was good at it though, I'll give her that. Actually, Jo is the only person from the old days that I've kept in regular contact with. I'm sure she'll substantiate anything you'd like to check.

"There was one other member of the team – a Doctor John Smith. We knew him as simply the Doctor, he used to just turn up as he pleased really. He had a great intellectual ability and, to be honest, without him we wouldn't all be here today. He's the one you really want to try to talk to."

Yates then described his first alien encounter, an intelligence known as the Nestene Consciousness. Amazingly, this entity tried to take over the world by causing items made from a plastic base to attack humans. This threat, he claims, was finally defeated only after the Royal Air Force were called in to carry out a bombing raid on the offending aggressor. (The RAF deny any such bombing run, of course.)

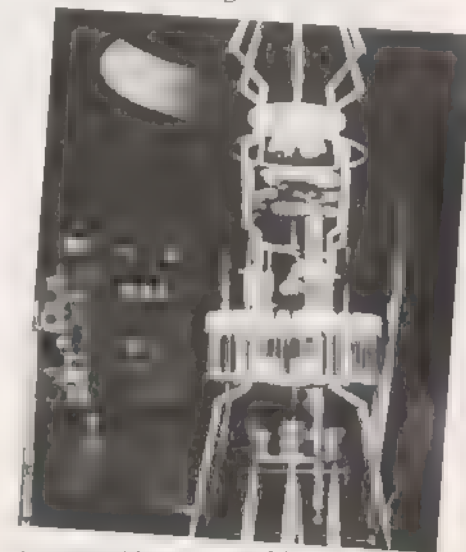
This was only the first of many close encounters: his next memory concerned the assassination of the Chinese delegate during the London round of the World Peace Conference. The killing was credited to a rival political faction at the time, however Mike Yates claims that this was a cover story.

"UNIT was in charge of security for that, but back then our manpower resources were pretty limited, so the job wasn't made any easier when we were put in charge of the Thunderbolt Nerve Gas Missile disarmament programme at the same time. An alien we had encountered before, and known as the Master, attempted to wreck the peace talks by having the Chinese delegate assassinated, and by stealing the Missile while it was on its way to be dismantled. All this is on file somewhere – it has to be."

Andrew Dylan's investigations (see Page 4) have revealed that the Master was a terrorist, Victor Magistair, who was tried and imprisoned in 1976 under

a cloud of secrecy. The Ministry of Defence, of course, denies the Thunderbolt missile was ever in terrorist – let alone alien! – hands but one incident more easily confirmed that also involved "The Master" was the interruption of a live BBC 3 broadcast from the entrance to a prehistoric burial mound at Devil's End. Millions of viewers witnessed the start of some very strange events, including freak weather conditions which centered solely on the area surrounding the burrow.

"In retrospect," muses Mike, "That was when I first realised that man was no more than an insignificant dot in the Universal Plan. Through his psychic and mental abilities, The Master managed to release the powers of Azal, a member of an advanced alien race called the Dæmons. Over the years these beings have watched over man's development as a scientist would a culture dish. Now if we can contact beings like this through meditation, and convince them that we are peaceful, imagine what they could teach us. They could give us cures to diseases we are years away from discovering, misery and distress wiped out overnight. However as long as we appear aggressive they will continue to stay away, or worse if we become an irritation to them they could put an end to us, as easily as we might swat a wasp that threatens to sting."



Cover-up. Although many of her pictures were confiscated by UNIT "for security reasons" photographer Isobel Watkins is adamant that this is an alien communications device snapped during The Invasion incident in early 1975.

UNIT, claims Mike Yates, dealt with everything from ghostly sightings, to assassination attempts by time-travelling terrorists from the Twenty-Second Century. Then, shortly before his dismissal, he was dispatched to the Welsh town of Llanfairfach, where Global Chemicals had built a new refinery.

"UNIT was called in to investigate a strange death caused by toxic waste from the plant. I was apparently brain-washed, and taken over by the refinery's automated computer which had developed a form of consciousness. I was pretty disturbed after that experience, but with the help of the



Doctor and a crystal he claimed had healing properties, I recovered."

In a way that was the beginning of the end of Mike Yates' army career. Despite the proclaimed powers of the crystal he never fully recovered from the effects of the brain-washing.

"After the Global affair I was what you might call a little unstable. I became involved with a group committed to returning the Earth to a golden age before industrial pollution and technological overkill. We were led by the MP, Charles Grover, and with his funding we planned to go back to a time from where we could start afresh. Unfortunately we failed to achieve our goal, although we did bring a number of dinosaurs forward in time. It was more difficult for the Government to hush that one up. Dinosaurs had been spotted in Hyde Park, after all – but they did try, by evacuating the city centre." (During the crisis Yates refers to. London was indeed evacuated as it has been on several occasions in the past because of terrorist attacks, particularly those credited to the work of the so-called "Master's Gang" in the late Seventies. According to the Ministry of Defence, the dinosaur sightings were the products of overactive imaginations and an escape of an LSD-based hallucinogenic nerve gas, which the regular army promptly dealt with. Of course, this nerve gas has never been used in any conflict, so the official story remains as unsubstantiated as Yates claims, even though Grover did vanish completely from public life, his present whereabouts unknown.)

"My problem during this crisis arose when UNIT were called in. There was a conflict of interest you see – did I fight for the good of the planet as I saw it, or the good of the country? I've said time and again that I was not a traitor but I was accused of it and I suppose I was seen as a double-agent, albeit with the noblest of intentions. Grover duped us all, you see.

"Once it was all over, everyone was very understanding but there was no question of me remaining in UNIT. I was discharged on the grounds that mentally I had never really recovered from the brainwashing, and that under normal circumstances I wouldn't have become involved with Charles Grover's group. Yet looking back on it I am still of the opinion that my motivation for joining them was correct, and their aim a valid one. My only regret is the way we went about it."

Mike Yates is convinced that his current life-style is the right one for him, and as our time drew to an end he made this last appeal.

"From my own personal experience I know that there are life-forms beyond our imagining out there. As a planet we must be ready to welcome them when they do finally arrive. That's why I'm telling you about UNIT now, because they've covered things up, you see. They're afraid there'd be some sort of mass panic on the part of the general public if they found out there really *was* life on other planets – even though scientists have now discovered planets around other stars.

"Through our beliefs and teachings the Cosmic Earth Society can prepare you to look forward to that encounter, because when they do arrive we will have so much to learn that it will make all our previous experiences seem dull in comparison. If anyone feels they would like to be a part of this then contact me. There is much work to be done in preparation."

Thanking him for seeing me I got up to leave, but before I did he grabbed my arm, his voice more urgent than before. "Find the Doctor, he'll explain it all!"

So, is there any truth in Yates' claims or are they the outrageous figments of imagination, the products of a tortured mind? Since the interview took place, it's become clear that if there is any truth to the stories of close encounters, UNIT appear to have been very clever in covering up any physical evidence. Files have gone missing. Dates and cross references wiped from computer records. Key personnel cannot be found. Disinformation is rife, akin to claims that the American military covered up the truth about UFO landings in the Fifties. Even now, with *The Metropolitan's* own investigations proceeding apace, we still don't know the full story.

After the interview, I called the Ministry Of Defence and asked for their reactions to his claims. According to one Brigadier Winifred Bambera "Whilst I cannot confirm or deny the continued existence of the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce, I think the idea that we've been invaded by aliens is a little far-fetched, don't you? Any organisation with the resources you describe is far more likely to be involved in anti-terrorist activities . . . I can confirm that Mike Yates was discharged from the army on medical grounds." Was he mentally unstable? "No comment," she replied, refusing to be drawn further, particularly over the incidents Yates described and those

unearthed by my fellow reporter, Andrew Dylan. Short of Ms. Bambera quoting D Notices (a system of rarely used censorship by the British government) and the Official Secrets Act it seemed I had hit another stone wall.

Brigadier Lethbridge-Steward has long since left active service, retiring in 1981 shortly after the Royal Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana. RSM Benton was unavailable for comment. Interestingly, Yates has since been contacted by Benton himself while the CES leader was on a speaking tour in America. Yates claims Benton asked him to end his disclosures about UNIT which he of course refused to do. Shortly after these threats, the apparently genuine UNIT documents on the Auderly House Incident arrived at the offices of *The Metropolitan*, along with 'The Alien' blueprints. Yates of course denies all knowledge of them.

I also contacted Jo Jones in North Wales, where she now lives with her husband Clifford, and eight-year-old daughter Katy. Now a green activist herself while she confirmed that she had indeed been a scientific assistant with UNIT she refused to confirm or deny any of the claims made by her former colleague.

I have been unable to find any trace of Dr John Smith.

I can add that Yates' revelations do seem to have come at an opportune time for the Cosmic Earth leader. Next month will see the release of his second book which he says will detail his entire UNIT career and because it is being published in Australia, will not suffer the same censorship demands made on journalist Sarah Jane Smith's book published a few years ago. Described as a logical sequel to *Help From The Stars* it has been given the obscure title, *Police Box Alien*.



Jo Grant ex-UNIT agent, now running for Parliament.



# BRIEF ENCOUNTER



A Wee Deoch  
an..?

Alastair Lethbridge Stewart was irritated. The phone call from Ian Teynham, Billy Rutledge's ADC, had prevented him from taking the sleeper up to Scotland, where he had been promised some fine shooting and the opportunity to renew his acquaintance with Fiona Fraser, his host's fiery and fascinating sister.

Ian had been smugly mysterious. Alastair should go immediately to Brighton, check into the Royal Albion Hotel and await contact from a Herr Hahnstier, who would brief him more fully.

Alastair had, of course, obeyed his instructions without demur. Until he encountered that unruly dandy, "The Doctor", the possibility that instructions from a superior could be questioned, (let alone ignored), simply never occurred to him.

The young man had been sitting in the large lounge immediately adjacent to the reception foyer for over two hours, when the porter brought him the message that Herr Hahnstier had been delayed in Berne and would not be arriving until late Sunday evening. The same porter was then instantly entrusted with the task of bringing to Alastair the large Malt Whisky and water that he had been resisting hitherto in order to deal more effectively with whatever surprises this intriguing rendezvous might produce. However a forty-eight hour wait was a different matter. He was irritated but too good a soldier to do other than wait patiently for the arrival of Herr Hahnstier. He looked out of the tall, lushly curtained windows over a sea choppy and grey and found himself feeling extremely grateful that his family tradition and education had led him to a military career rather than a naval one. Not a night to be afloat, he thought, as he sipped his whisky.

Mel was irritated too. The Doctor had suddenly decided that his nine hundred and ninety-first birthday was not an anniversary that he could allow to pass without marking the



occasion with some sort of celebration

"And I know just the place," he exclaimed, striding purposefully towards the TARDIS' console room. Mel expected more travel agent's hyperbole about the Eye of Orion or the Ear of Hermes and was in the process of resigning herself to yet another thwarted attempt to show her the Universe's answer to the Grand Canyon, when he added "and we'll leave the time up to the Serendipity circuits. I love a mystery tour, don't you?"

So it was that Mel found herself following the Doctor through the Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton (in whose wine cellars the TARDIS had materialised). Had she had a beard, not only would it have been a fairly vivid red, but she would have been muttering darkly into it. It had simply not occurred to the Doctor that a former resident of Pease Pottage, Sussex might not regard the attractions of Brighton with quite the same degree of unbridled enthusiasm as this Gallifreyan overgrown child seemed to be presently displaying. But she forced herself to remember that it was his "birthday treat". Which reminded her...

"Doctor, what is so special about your nine hundred and ninety-first birthday, anyway?"

"What do you mean?"

"Well," she replied patiently "a hundredth birthday, or five hundredth – they would be worthy of celebration – and with your thousandth coming up so soon, why waste such a wonderful experience as coming here," and she hastened on before he could investigate her heavily sarcastic tone "... on a nine hundred and ninety-first birthday?"

He looked at her with genuine perplexity and was about to ask her, in turn, what was so special about a one thousandth birthday, compared with the numerical purity of a prime numbered one. Instead he was obliged to swerve to the left slightly to avoid the head waiter, who had planted himself in front of this bizarrely dressed stranger to enquire if he was the children's entertainer booked for Lord Roxburgh's daughter's party. This caused a hapless waitress to deposit a plate of cream cakes into the lap of a rather pleasant looking young lady sitting at an adjacent table

As the head waiter pursued the

waitress, who had fled in tears, the Doctor swept onwards oblivious both to the result of his erratic progress and the presence of an old friend. The latter, despite having witnessed the whole incident, had no idea that its instigator was to figure so largely in his future life, albeit in radically different corporeal forms.

True to his background, Alastair turned to aid the damsel in distress. He found himself looking into a pair of twinkling brown eyes, set in an open, friendly face and said "Alastair Lethbridge Stewart. May I be of assistance, Miss... er...?"

"My name," she said, "is Doris. And as to whether you can be of assistance to me... unless you happen to know a laundry or wear

dresses in my size, I'm at a loss to know how to respond to your most gallant offer." She glanced down to her lap, and added mischievously "Would you care for a meringue, Alastair Lethbridge Stewart?" She giggled infectiously and Alastair found himself reflecting that the next forty-eight hours might not be so dull after all, as thoughts of his missed weekend in the Glens receded forever from his mind

Meanwhile, leaning into the wind and spray, Mel was gazing balefully at the Doctor as the words "bracing" and "invigorating" floated back over his shoulder in her direction. She also heard "prime of my life", but its significance was lost on her

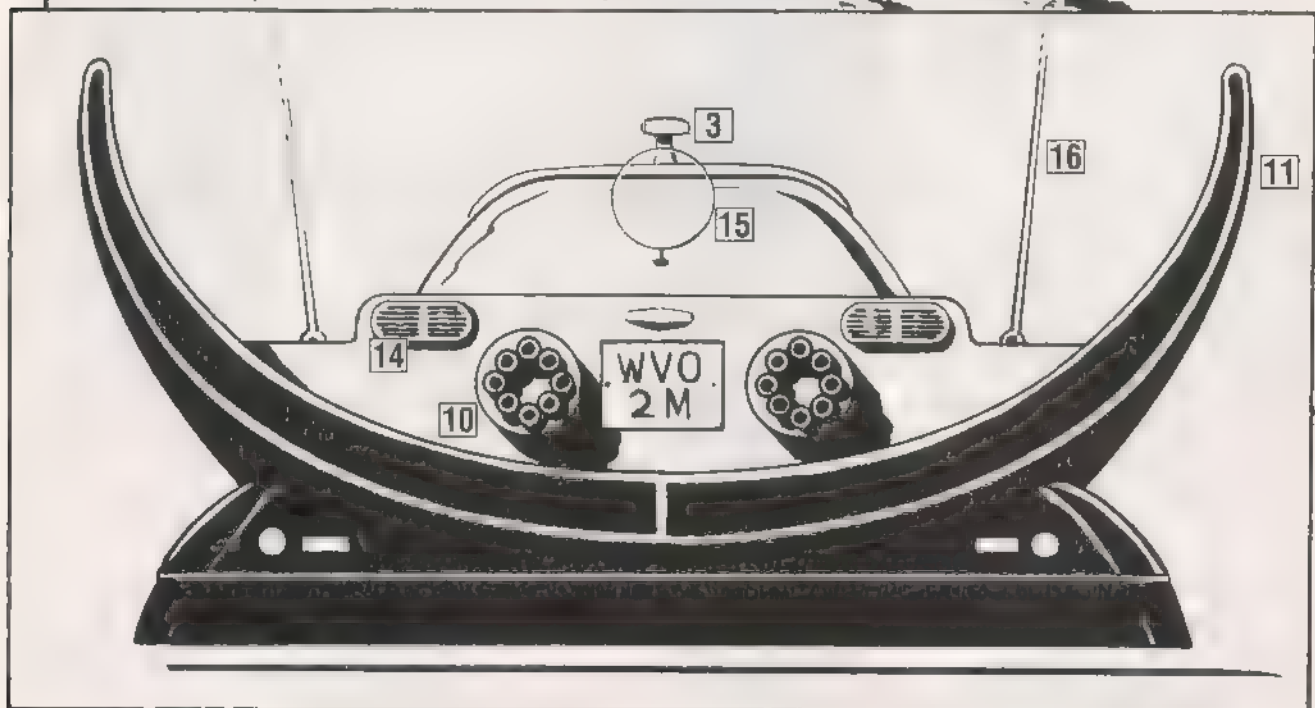
*Colin Baker*



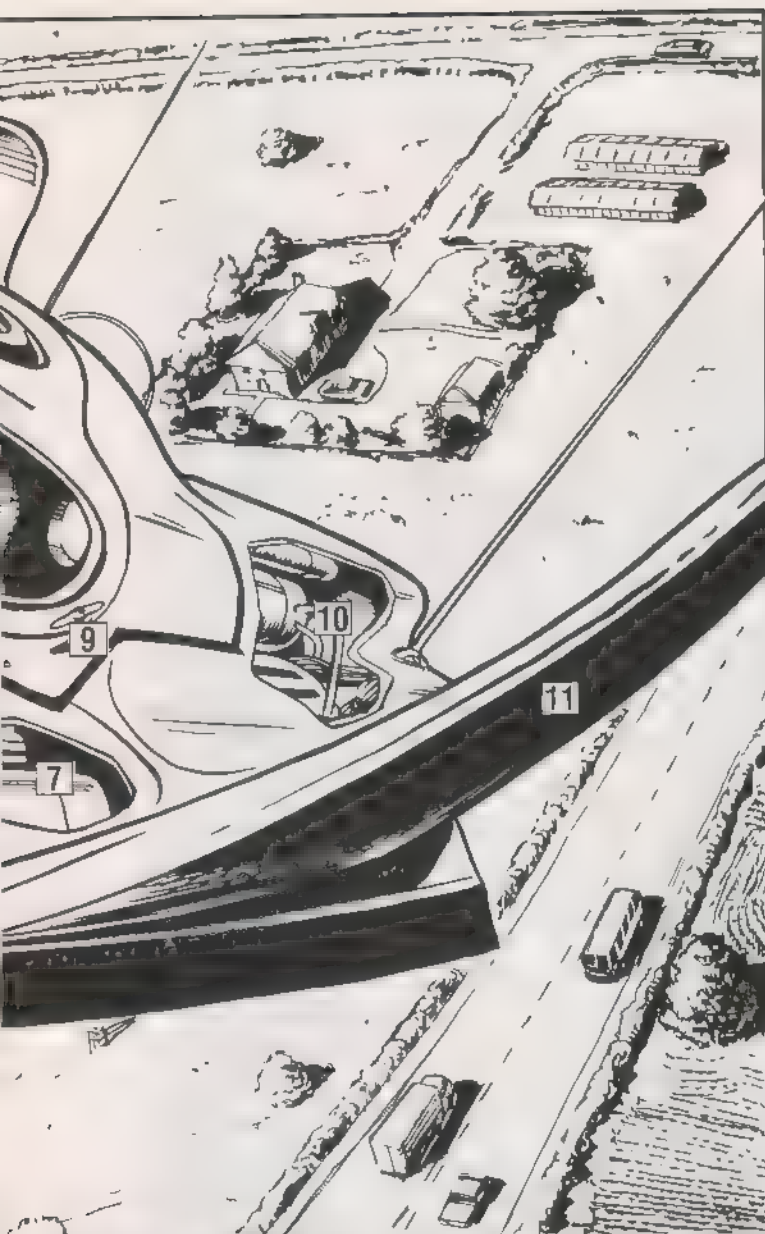


# THE ALIEN

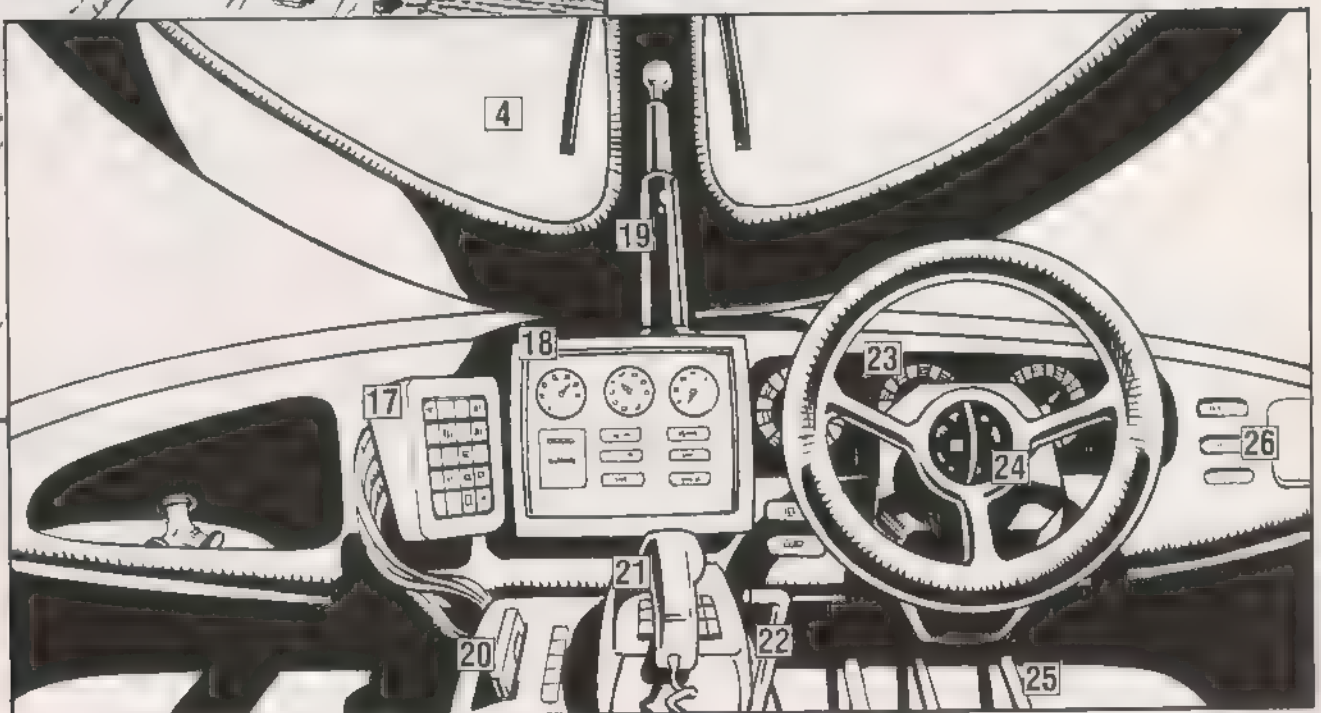
## EXCLUSIVE BLUEPRINTS



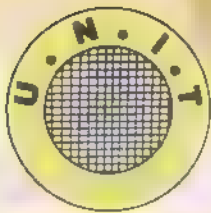




- 1 PHOTON HOVER  
One fore; two aft
- 2 FORE SENSOR ARRAY
- 3 PERISCOPE – 180° Rear View
- 4 COWL
- 5 INERTIA DAMPING EJECTOR SEAT
- 6 PHOTON AIR-BRAKING UNITS  
(Port and starboard – can be refocussed to provide limited destructive beams)
- 7 LIQUID COOLANT TANK
- 8 COOLANT DISTRIBUTION PIPES
- 9 COWL ACCESS CONTROL
- 10 MAIN PHOTON THRUSTERS (x2)
- 11 AIR VORTEX STABILISERS
- 12 PHOTON ROLL THRUSTERS  
(4 Port, 4 Starboard)
- 13 PROTECTIVE SKIRTING
- 14 PHOTON PITCH/YAW THRUSTERS
- 15 MAGNETIC FIELD NAVIGATIONAL AERIAL
- 16 GROUND/AIR COMMUNICATION AERIALS
- 17 COMPUTER INPUT KEYPAD
- 18 COMPUTER MONITOR – TOUCH SCREEN
- 19 HYDRAULIC COWL STRUT
- 20 IN-FLIGHT ENTERTAINMENT CONSOLE
- 21 COMMUNICATOR
- 22 THRUST and AIR BRAKE LEVER
- 23 INSTRUMENT PANEL
- 24 DIRECTIONAL DISPLAY
- 25 RUDDER PEDALS
- 26 CABIN ENVIRONMENT CONTROLS







# ALIEN INVASION

## Terrorists bomb peace conference

Peace delegates at the Auderley House conference were evacuated by United Nations Intelligence Task Force troops minutes before the building was destroyed by an unknown terrorist group yesterday. The Prime Minister described the attack as 'the politics of barbarism'.

UNIT troops battle alien forces near Auderley House in 1976.

**FROM:** Commander, (Rtrd)  
British Branch, UNIT

**TO:** Commander-In-Chief  
UNIT Headquarters  
Geneva, Switzerland

**REF:** 3/0077/ALS/gpr

**SUBJECTS:** The Doctor  
Daleks

**cc:** Brigadier W. Bambera  
Colonel C. Crichton  
Brigadier M. Frost

Sirs,

Regarding your requests for information concerning the UNIT operation of September 1976, codenamed *Day of the Daleks*, I have re-examined the files of the time. It includes observations of UNIT troops, the television crew from BBC-3 that covered Sir Reginald Styles' triumphant return from Peking and

comments by staff at Auderley House. A vast majority of these authors are no longer connected with UNIT, Auderley or the media and will be difficult to trace, should you so require.

As I remember, the events began one evening when a Duty Radio Operative received a call from a Miss Paget, permanent secretary to Sir Reginald Styles, who was organising the forthcoming World Peace Conference. A previous Conference had been disturbed by the machinations of The Master and his mind parasite (see my original 1976 notes REF: 2/0039/ALS/mh codenamed **THE MIND OF EVIL**) and this time the Chinese delegation were less than enthusiastic about partaking after the previous assault on their delegate, Fu Peng San,

*I clearly remember entering Sir Reginald's study. He was shaken, his valuable papers scattered everywhere. He claimed a ghost had entered through the French win-*

*dows (which I had locked earlier) and tried to murder him. I called Brigadier Lethbridge Stewart of UNIT, as they were handling security for Sir Reginald. When they arrived the following morning, Sir Reginald denied any such attack had occurred. Shortly afterwards, by mutual consent, my employment with Sir Reginald was terminated.*

*Miss J. Paget*

Having distracted my scientific advisor, the Doctor (see my original 1975 document REF 1/3469/ Codenamed **THE DOCTOR - A; THE INVASION**), and his companion Josephine Grant (now Jones. Her activities are exempt from MoD and MI5 investigation by Official Charter by HM Government 1979), from an experiment apparently involving time lines, we headed for Auderley. There we discovered an unconscious man similar in description, according to Miss Paget, to the one Sir



Reginald claimed to have seen the previous night. The Doctor discovered a futuristic gun and small black box which he believed was a primitive (his words, not mine) time travel device. On operating it back at UNIT HQ we learned that our unconscious prisoner had simply vanished from under my staff sergeant's nose in the ambulance taking him to hospital.

*We were just sitting there, the Sergeant and me. One minute this guerilla was there, the next he'd vanished, strange lights surrounding him, like you see in discos. We couldn't believe it. Neither could the Brig when Sergeant Benton reported in!*

**Corporal Warren Martyn**  
(now Captain attached to UNIT, Berlin)

The Doctor and Miss Grant offered to stay the night at Auderly. With Sir Reginald on his way to Peking, the house was empty and the Doctor suspected the attackers would try again.

He was right – three terrorists later identified as Anat, Boaz and Shura, entered Auderly. On realising that the Doctor was not Sir Reginald, they kept him and Miss Grant hostage apparently in the wine cellar. When my adjudicator contacted UNIT HQ and informed me that the Doctor had vanished I phoned the house. Eventually the Doctor answered and, to coin a phrase, tipped me off that things were not as they should be. I later learned that one of the terrorists, Shura, had splintered away from the main group and had returned to the disused canal tunnel where we had found his comrade. This was apparently the terrorists' arrival point in our time.

*It was very odd. Both myself and Sergeant John Benton searched the house from top to bottom. Whilst we were quite used to the Doctor and Jo going off and doing things, it was very unusual of them not to inform either myself or the Sergeant. We had both seen Miss Grant a few hours earlier and she had seemed in fine spirits. After two thorough searches, I sent word to UNIT HQ that they were missing. Both the Sergeant and I then returned to UNIT to make a full report. Sergeant Benton also reported that one of his two-men patrols had disappeared which made me extra suspicious.*

**Captain Mike Yates (Dscrbrd)**

Whilst I was preparing to take troops to Auderly and assess the situation, I understand that Miss Grant was affected by one of the terrorist's time travel devices. Her personal report of the subsequent events are far more detailed (see document REF: GRANT, JO 2/3976 – DAY OF THE DALEKS) but to summarise her observations: she met up with the Controller of a future Earth, circa 2176, who tried to befriend her. He suggested that the Doctor, indeed the whole of contemporary (to Miss

Grant) Earth was in danger from the guerilla forces. She informed him of the existence of the canal tunnel and the date that she had come from and the Controller apparently sent his ape-like servants, the Ogrons, to fetch them back.

As the Ogrons arrived in our time, so the might of UNIT took them on.

*They were very disturbing – I can vividly recall the jumping of my stomach and my nervousness as they were stalking towards us. They were really big and had tremendous strength.*

**Private Trey Korte, rsgnd.**  
Now living in Ohio, USA

We managed to slow the onslaught of the Ogrons, but they were mostly immune to our firepower. The Doctor and the two terrorists managed to get free of the Ogrons hounding them due to my arrival with some heavy artillery (note: the Ogron I killed later vanished in a similar fashion to the terrorist at the beginning of this escapade, denying us the chance to investigate this race further). I understand that the Doctor and the terrorists were then projected into a parallel future universe (see REF 2/3075 – THE DOCTOR A: INFERNO) where the Daleks, a race the Doctor

had fought before (see REF 1/3063 – GILMORE A: THE SHOREDITCH INCIDENT), were in control of the Earth.

The Doctor revealed later that he had found the survivors of a third world war eeking out an existence as slaves to the Ogrons, mining precious metals and ore, regardless of the humans' age, sex or disabilities. Human guards helped the Ogrons subdue their kinsmen.

Miss Grant also said that she was informed by the Controller that the Doctor was in the twenty-second century, but that he was a prisoner of the terrorists, whom he painted a very black picture of. In fact, the Doctor, although not agreeing with their methods, had apparently accepted the terrorists' arguments, but his main concern was in freeing Miss Grant. He was held by a Manager of a work party who eventually allows the Doctor to be taken into the custody of the Controller.

Reunited, Miss Grant and the doctor exchanged information and Miss Grant began to realise that the Controller had not been entirely honest with her.

*I was quite cross with myself for swallowing the Controller's stories so easily. Of course the Doctor was right, he always is! What happened ▶*



Doctor John Smith fights off two of the aliens, photographed by UNIT surveillance equipment in the grounds of UNIT house.



UNIT agent Jo Grant with the time travel device mentioned in Brigadier Lethbridge Stewart's document of the Day of the Daleks event. Left: The Times newspaper report of the day by John Summerfield, detailing attempts by UNIT to hush up events at Auderley House.

## UNIT raid BBC offices: Material confiscated

By John Summerfield

Following yesterday's terrorist bomb attack on Auderley House, officers of Scotland Yard's Special Branch under the supervision of two men identified as representatives of the United Nations Intelligence Task Force last night raided BBC offices in London and removed a film and documentary material being stored at Auderley House. No explanation for the raid has been given.

Protests from broadcasters and politicians were immediate. Sir Charles Grover MP, who was present at Auderley House yesterday, condemned the action as an outrageous abuse of power, demanding a strong diplomatic protest to UNIT headquarters in Geneva. He has a so-called explanation from UNIT cannot be allowed to run riot like this, he commented.

Despite the presence of Grover, a Northern Ireland minister, the IRA has denied any involvement. In yesterday's incident, journalists at the scene have claimed that troops were engaged in a running battle with unidentified attackers prior to the bomb blast. "The UNIT people virtually chased us out at gunpoint," said one reporter. "They were confiscating notebooks and cameras before we were even out of the grounds."

UNIT censorship: Commons debate report, Page 13



*next is something that will remain with me for the rest of my life – and not because I enjoyed it. I have been on most forms of transport, but the mini-bikes were simply awful!*

**Josephine Grant (now Jones)**  
now living in North Wales

They attempted to escape on what the Doctor later described as "extraordinary little motor cycle-like machines" (he also put in a request for UNIT to purchase the necessary parts to enable him to build one. Naturally, I recognised his enthusiasm taking over from his rationality and refused). Ogrons recaptured them and the Doctor was put into a Mind Analysis Machine. The Daleks were, understandably, confused about his appearance apparently not being congruent with their own records (a feeling I now know only too well) but this machine confirmed he was the 'Time Lord' they thought he was.

WAS



The futuristic Dalek control centre, snapped by a hidden camera carried by Jo Grant and supplied to *The Metropolitan* with the documents reprinted here.

Oddly enough, it was the Controller who apparently stopped the Daleks killing the Doctor. He wanted to interrogate him about the terrorists. The Daleks let him go and the Controller explains that the Daleks took control after a huge world war towards the end of the twentieth (ie our) century. Apparently the terrorists then mounted an attack on the Controller's suite and rescued Miss Grant and the Doctor, leaving the Controller to his fate at the hands of the Daleks.

It was at this point that UNIT became involved once again. The conference had been a success, Sir Reginald had convinced the Chinese to attend and their cars and limousines were arriving at Auderly when the Doctor reappeared.

*There I was, attempting to record a television interview between Alex Macintosh and the Brigadier, when he was whisked away. The next thing I knew was that we were being forcibly ejected from the area by Captain Yates!*

**Allan Smith, BBC-3 Director (rtd),**  
now living in Swansea

He demanded that we clear the house – there was a bomb in it. Although my

# THE UNIT CHRONOLOGY

Italicised titles refer to UNIT documents censored by D Notices in Britain and only revealed thanks to research of published CIA material in the United States. Interested readers should note that although every attempt has been made to verify the dates of the listed incidents, *The Metropolitan's* access to government documentation has been limited in the extreme; because of this no exact dates can be published at this time. Even as we went to press more information on the history of UNIT was coming to light and we welcome corrections to our research for future publication.

**1926 *The Yeti Affair*** Professor Travers reports to the War Department on the appearance of robot creatures in Tibet. Further investigations blocked by the Dalai Lama.

**1943 *The Ultima Project*** Reports of monsters in Northumbria linked with cypher project headed by Commander Millington. War censorship covers subsequent investigations by army intelligence but tales of vampirism persist.

**1959 *The Delta Briefing*** A secret report to the Pentagon by CIA agents Weismüller and Hawk on UFO activity in England suggests the establishment of an alien defence force. The report is buried by the US administration of the day.



**Ian Gilmore in 1963 – now a UNIT military advisor.**

**1961 *The Intrusion Counter Measures Group*** is established in Britain under the command of Group Captain Ian 'Chunky' Gilmore of the newly formed Royal Air Force Regiment. Its brief was to protect the UK from covert actions by hostile powers, mounting intelligence operations against any such threats. Staffed by RAF personnel, scientific advisors included Professor Rachel Jensen.

**Late 1963 *The Shoreditch Incident*** D Notice suppresses encounters with aliens at Totters' Lane. Local populace evacuated from the immediate area under the instructions of British High Command under the terms of the Peacetime Nuclear Accident Provisions. The physicist, Allison Williams is seconded from Cambridge to assist in undisclosed operations, with the

deaths of several operatives described as the unfortunate result of events connected with an emergency wartime bomb disposal. Further investigation blocked under the terms of the Official Secrets Act 1964 ICMG called into investigate the death of the industrialist, Forrester.



One of the bezerker War Machines.

**12th July 1966 onwards *The C-Day Incident*** Robotic machines controlled by the computer WOTAN, run amok in Central London prompting mass evacuation and a secret government enquiry.

**20th July 1966 onwards *The Chameleon Affair*** MoD files refer to 'Police Box Incident' at the new Gatwick Airport – a now common UNIT euphemism for alien activity. Unexplained disappearance of many young people.

1967 ICMG called in to investigate events at the Euro-Gas refinery.

**1971 *The Underground Animals*** ICMG combines with regular army forces to deal with dangerous animals at loose in the London Underground. Central London evacuated as a mysterious fog – ascribed to 'cleverly orchestrated nerve gas attack' by an unnamed Middle East Terrorist Group which is dealt with by the army. UNIT – the United Nations Intelligence Task Force – formed shortly after this incident, the result of a secret UN resolution.

**Early 1975 *The Invasion*** Strange metal robots sighted in London and photographed by Isobel Watkins, further reports suppressed. Worldwide alert over rogue nuclear missile – no disclosure to this day as to the identity of the country who fired the weapon. UNIT absorbs the properties, scientific laboratories and assets of International Electromatics after the unexplained death of its owner, Tobias Vaughn.



1975 Reports of an alien at the Ashbridge Cottage Hospital appear in the national press, disclaimed by then UNIT leader Brigadier Alister Gordon Lethbridge Stewart.

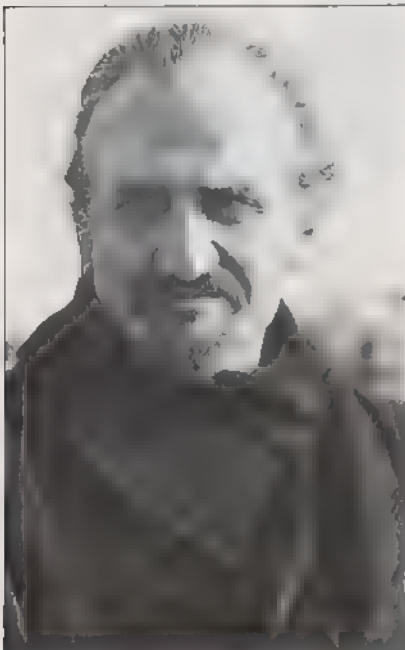




**The Wentley Moor Incident** Caves blown up in Derbyshire by UNIT following a series of terrorist attacks on a secret atomic research laboratory

**The Mars Probe 7 Affair** Public admission of alien menaces apparently suppressed by UNIT Renegade army officers...

**Project Inferno** Near disaster at a drilling plant averted following UNIT intervention.



Victor Magister

## 1976 "The Master's Gang Incidents"

UNIT foils plot to kill people with radio activated plastic daffodils'

**The Mind of Evil** UNIT assigned with disarmament duties – the Thunderbolt Nerve Gas missile and security for World Peace Conference in London.

**The Axonite Incident** (see also ex-CIA agent Bill Filer's book *The Nuton Conspiracy*) Following the destruction of a nuclear power facility, the United Nations presses for greater powers over national military forces in the event of terrorist emergencies

**Devil's End** UNIT called in to investigate events at British village after a broadcast on BBC 3 from an ancient barrow is cut off in mid-transmission by freak weather conditions. The terrorist known as The Master is arrested and placed on secret trial, then sentenced to life imprisonment

## September 1976 Day of the Daleks

Terrorists are blamed for the destruction of Auderley House belonging to Sir Reginald Styles, location for the second World Peace Conference UNIT save the lives of delegates and the Styles' Accord grants the organisation wider powers.



Doctor John Smith at Portsmouth with Navy ratings in 1977.

**1977 The Sea Devils** Parliamentary Secretary Walker is dismissed following the escape of 'The Master' from his island prison with the help of accomplices. He has not been heard of since

**The Time Monster** WWII Doodlebugs spotted over Cambridge – investigated by UNIT

Terrorists blamed for destruction of government sponsored research facility at Fetch Priory, run by Dr Fendelman and part funded by International Electromatics.

**1979** Eminent archaeologist Professor Amelia Rumford presents her surprise paper on *Silicon Life Forms and Habitats* to the Royal Scientific Club



**1979 The Green Death** Events at the Global Chemicals plant in Llanfairfach, Wales, are suppressed

**1980** Scientists disappear from the Brains Trust

**The 'Dinosaur' Invasion** London evacuated when an LSD-based hallucinogen gas is released in a "freak accident", later revealed as a terrorist bomb attack by *The Metropolitan*. Captain Mike Yates dismissed from service and journalist Sarah Jane Smith seconded to UNIT as part of publicity drive for new recruits

**The Think Tank Incident** Right wing scientists attempt to take over nuclear missiles using sophisticated computer programmes developed under duress by Professor Kettlewell, who is subsequently killed in a raid on the organisation's bunker. Government enquiry blames UNIT for death and complaints made to Geneva about national security breaches by UNIT staff

**The Pharos Encounter** national newspaper reports on security guards Encounter with Aliens at the Pharos project, which beams friendly messages into space for supposed other civilisations. "They arrived in a spaceship shaped like a Greek column," said Andrew Mitchell, the Head of Security

**The Zygon Gambit** The World Energy Conference at Stamford House at (what is now UNIT's new London headquarters) is disrupted by a terrorist attack.

**The Android Invasion** Secret government work on cyborgs stolen during UNIT operation against Middle Eastern terrorists.

**The Seeds of Doom** Widespread reports of plants attacking human beings in South East England blamed on sun spots.

**1981** Brigadier Alistair Gordon-Lethbridge Stewart retires from the armed forces to take up teaching at Brendon School. Colonel Crichton appointed new commander of British forces

**The Hand of Fear** Investigation of attack on Nulton nuclear power station

**1982** UNIT powers limited by agreement of the UN Security Council and previous wide-ranging powers of curfew and arrest withdrawn.

**1983** Part of Amsterdam sealed off by UNIT team after terrorist explosion. Dutch government protests at action and investigation ordered

A UNIT Reunion at their old country coincidentally marks beginning of withdrawal of funding for the organisation by the United Nations

**1984** Following UNIT's appeal to cordon off the village of Little Hodcombe after what was described in the popular press as a "Mass Ghost Sighting" the organisation is ridiculed and Crichton resigns under a cloud

UNIT national forces apparently disbanded as US funding withdrawn

**1985** Heightened UFO reports over Spain, France and Southern Britain are dismissed as hoaxes by authorities

**1986 The Bogus Planet** Antarctic Space Tracking Station attacked by unknown forces

UNIT surveillance operations on known terrorists (such as Gustav Litten) gains increased funding by secret UN resolution. Several government officials of different countries resign in protest.

**1988** Wild 'Giant Cat' hunted by UNIT team without success in Perivale in North West London

UNIT's Geneva Headquarters major refurbishment begins, Bambera working undercover in Eastern Bloc. The organisation's disarmament duties are given highest priority

**1991** Brigadier Winifred Bambera sighted as part of UN investigation team in Iraq following the Gulf War. Disarmament duties code named "Dull Sword"



Future terrorist at Auderley House in 1976:



men had checked, they had understandably overlooked a tiny hidden coal cellar where the terrorist, Shura, sat with a bomb. He was unwilling to use a timer, planning to blow himself and Styles, whom he blamed for the World War, to pieces. The Doctor informed him that the Daleks were in fact the enemy and were on their way to the house

*I was surprised that we had overlooked the cellar – it was an obvious place to hide a bomb, but perhaps we didn't have enough time. With the power of hindsight it is always easy to see how things ought to have been done.*

**Private Steve Coalshaw, rsgnd,  
Now living in Wirral,  
Merseyside**



My men had begun engaging the Daleks and Ogrons as they emerged from the canal tunnel

*It was an army of Daleks and Ogrons that came out of the tunnel, and getting ready to attack the mansion. There seemed to be an unlimited amount of them!*

**Private Trey Korte, rsgnd.  
Now living in Ohio USA**

*I couldn't believe it! So much destruction from such a small force. It looked as if there were only three Daleks, but they were everywhere! We didn't have a chance!*

**Lance Corporal Simon Sadler,  
rsgnd.  
Now living in Peckham, London**

Whisking away the startled, and understandably frightened delegates and television news reporters, we allowed the Dalek army to swarm into the house

*I found the Daleks really quite menacing as they glided around and into the house, wanting to exterminate Styles!*

**Tony Darbyshire,  
Freelance TV Camera Operator,  
Wigan, Lancs**

We regrouped on a hill top overlooking Auderly just as Shura detonated his bomb. Sir Reginald acknowledged that the destruction of his house was a worthy sacrifice for peace and thankfully the Conference went well and war was averted

*Whatever else has been said or written about the early days of the*

*United Nations Intelligence Taskforce, I wish to put the following on record. The British Division under Brigadier Alistair Lethbridge-Stewart are a thoroughly professional, intelligent and brave force. Their work in saving my conference and the lives of all those involved is to be commended at every level and I strongly recommend UNIT's funding be increased and unrestricted – they are a taskforce desperately needed in these days.*

**Sir Reginald Styles,  
Chapter Four of his autobiography  
Peacemaker  
W H Allen 1990**

For further information of Dalek activity, see regular army files (now under the auspices of Colonel Crichton) regarding the 1983 attack in South East London. REF 2/3083 BOMB SQUAD DISASTER A: SHAD THAMES AREA and REF 2/3183 and REF 2/3086 GUSTAVE LYTTON A: ABORTED SU RVF II LANCE OPERATION.



## DAY OF THE DALEKS SERIAL KKK CAST:

Jon Pertwee (*Dr Who*) with Jean McFarlane (*Miss Paget*), Wilfrid Carter (*Sir Reginald Styles*), Tim Condren (*Guerilla*), Nicholas Courtney (*Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart*), Katy Manning (*Jo Grant*), Rick Lester, Maurice Bush (*Ogrons*), Richard Franklin (*Captain Mike Yates*), John Levene (*Sergeant Benton*), John Scott Martin (*Chief Dalek*), Oliver Gilbert, Peter Messaline (*Daleks Voices*), Aubrey Woods (*Controller*), Deborah Brayshaw (*Girl Technician*), Gypsy Kemp (*UNIT Radio Operator*), Anna Barry (*Anai*), Jimmy Winston (*Shura*), Scott Fredericks (*Boaz*), Rick Newby, Murphy Grumbar (*Daleks*), David Joyce, Frank Menzies, Bruce Wells, Geoffrey Todd (*Ogrons*), Valentine Palmer (*Monia*), Andrew Carr (*Senior Guard*), George Raistrick (*Guard*), Peter Hill (*Manager*), Alex MacIntosh (*Television Reporter*)

## CREDITS

Written by Louis Marks. Title music by Ron Grainer and BBC Radiophonic Workshop. Fight arranger: Rick Leter [Episode Four]. Daleks originated by Terry Nation. Incidental music: Dudley Simpson. Script editor: Terrance Dicks. Designer: David Myerscough-Jones. Producer: Barry Letts. Director: Paul Bernard

## BROADCAST DETAILS

EPISODE ONE	1st January, 1972	5.50pm – 6.15pm
EPISODE TWO	8th January, 1972	5.50pm – 6.15pm
EPISODE THREE	15th January, 1972	5.50pm – 6.15pm
EPISODE FOUR	22nd January, 1972	5.50pm – 6.15pm

## REPEAT DETAILS

DAY OF THE DALEKS – 3rd September, 1973, 7.00pm – 8.00pm  
[Except BBC Wales: 6th September, 1973, 7.00pm – 8.00pm]

### Viewing Figures:

One: 9.8M (38th), Two: 10.4M (29th), Three: 9.1M (38th), Four: 9.1M (40th)  
Compilation: 7.4M (32nd).

### Audience Appreciation:

No figures recorded for initial transmission. Compilation: 52%

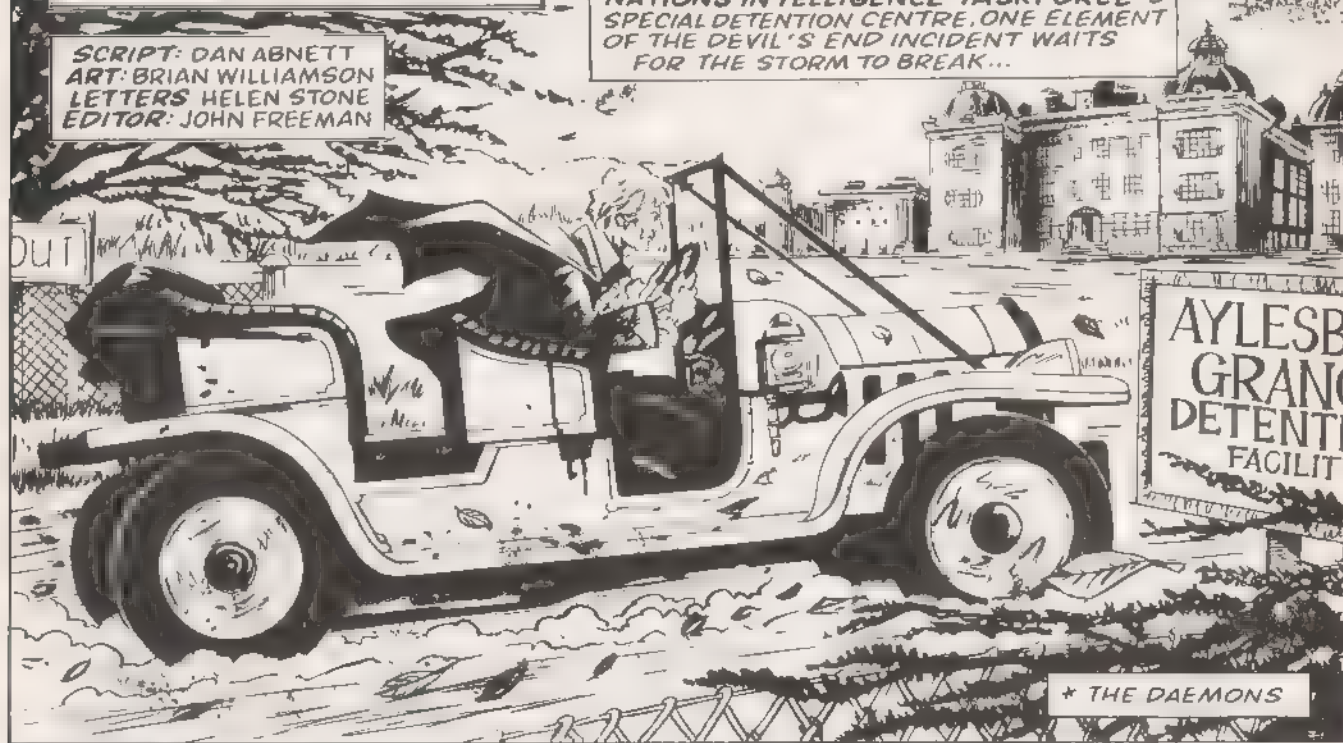


# THE MAN IN THE ION MASK

SCRIPT: DAN ABNETT  
ART: BRIAN WILLIAMSON  
LETTERS: HELEN STONE  
EDITOR: JOHN FREEMAN

ENGLAND, 1976. THE EARTH HAS BEEN BORN ANEW IN A MAY DAY MIRACLE AT DEVIL'S END \* REACHING ITS BALMY, THUNDERHEAD CLOSE

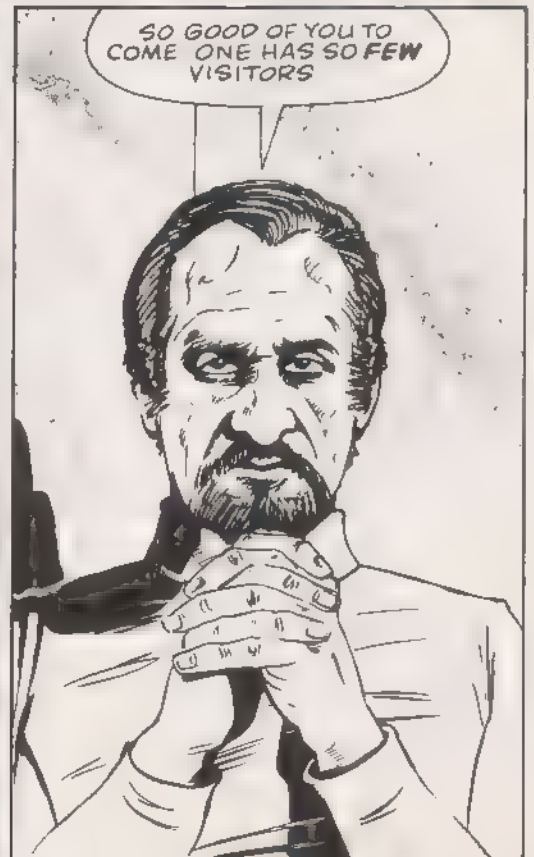
AT AYLESBURY GRANGE, THE UNITED NATIONS INTELLIGENCE TASKFORCE'S SPECIAL DETENTION CENTRE, ONE ELEMENT OF THE DEVIL'S END INCIDENT WAITS FOR THE STORM TO BREAK...



\* THE DAEMONS









I HAVEN'T COME ALL THIS WAY TO  
MAKE *POLITE CONVERSATION*!

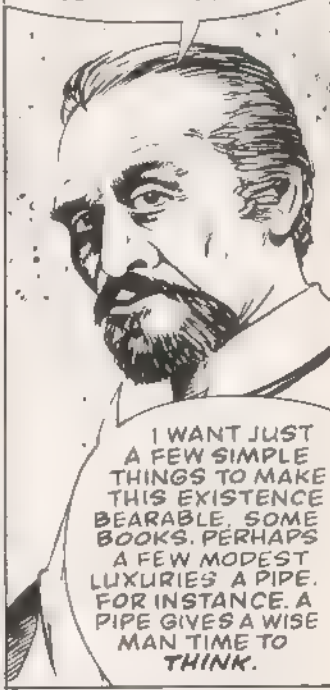


WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

YOU  
SELDOM  
DO



YOU'VE KNOWN ME A  
LONG TIME. YOU KNOW  
WHAT PRICELESS, GLOR-  
IOUS THINGS I HAVE  
CRAVED IN MY LIFE.  
THOSE LONGINGS HAVE  
LEFT ME NOW.



I WANT JUST  
A FEW SIMPLE  
THINGS TO MAKE  
THIS EXISTENCE  
BEARABLE. SOME  
BOOKS. PERHAPS  
A FEW MODEST  
LUXURIES. A PIPE,  
FOR INSTANCE. A  
PIPE GIVES A WISE  
MAN TIME TO  
*THINK*.

AND A *FOOL* SOME-  
THING TO STICK IN  
HIS MOUTH. DON'T  
PLAY WITH ME. WHY  
HAVE YOU ASKED  
TO SEE ME?

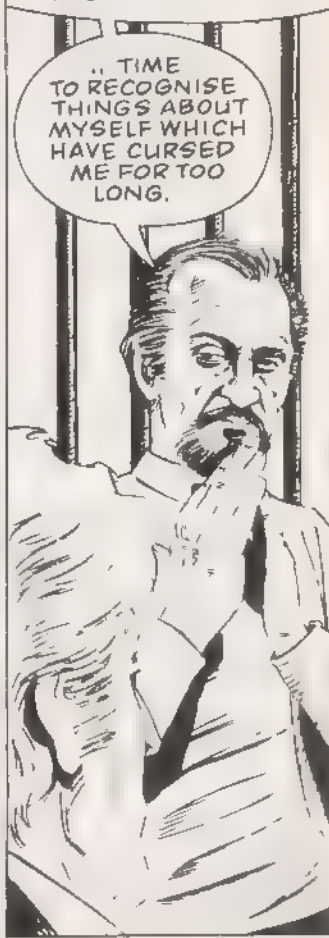


MY DEAR FELLOW!  
WHY MUST YOU ALWAYS  
BELIEVE THERE'S AN  
*ULTERIOR MOTIVE*?  
WHY DO YOU THINK  
EVERYTHING I SAY IS  
A TRICK?



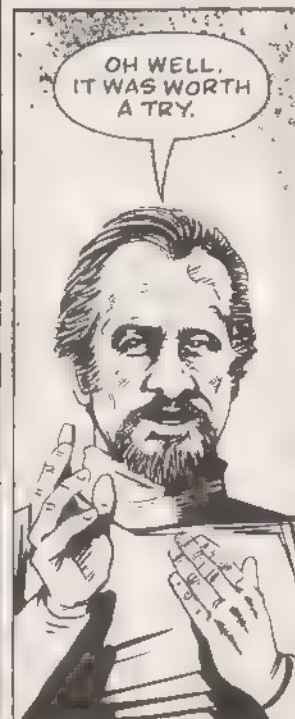
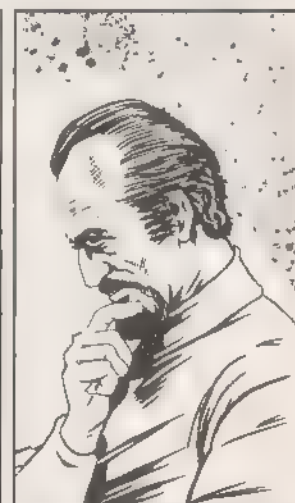
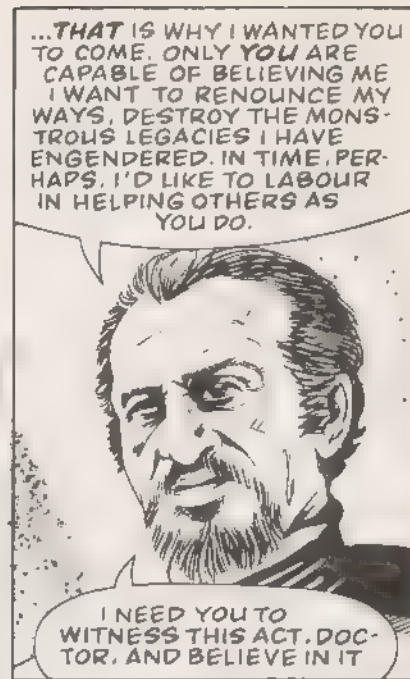
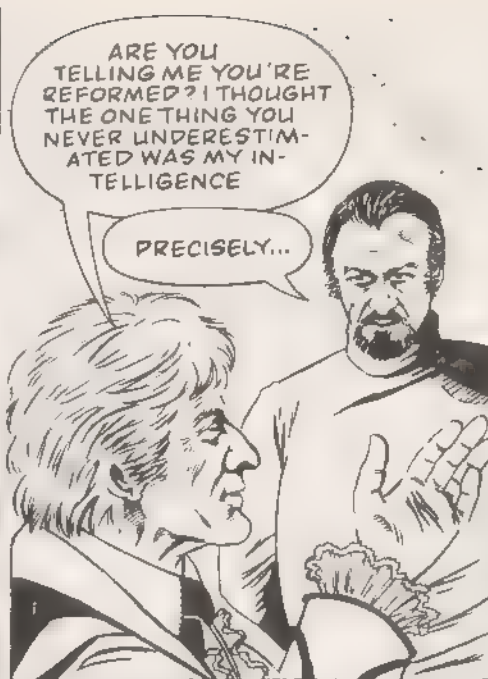
BECAUSE  
IT ALWAYS IS 'MY  
DEAR FELLOW'.  
I HAVE ALWAYS  
KNOWN YOU TO BE  
*MEDDLESOME*!

THEN THAT IS A NOTION  
YOU MUST DISPENSE  
WITH. I HAVE HAD TIME  
TO THINK, DOCTOR, TO  
MUSE AND CONSIDER..



.. TIME  
TO RECOGNISE  
THINGS ABOUT  
MYSELF WHICH  
HAVE CURSED  
ME FOR TOO  
LONG.











HELLO AGAIN!

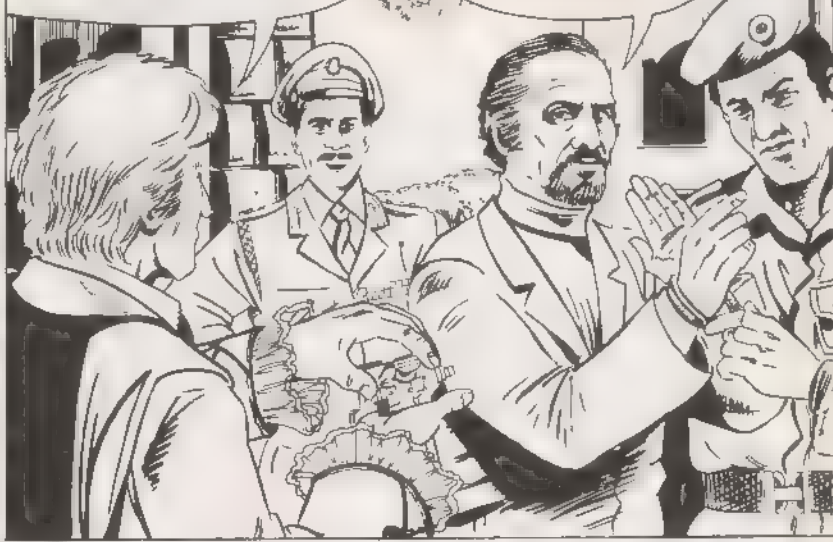




A PETTY  
TRICK, BUT  
EFFECTIVE

I DON'T IMAGINE FOR A  
MINUTE THAT YOU WON'T  
TRY THIS SORT OF THING  
AGAIN, BUT PERHAPS  
YOU'LL BE MORE CREATIVE  
NEXT TIME, OLD CHAP

OH, BELIEVE  
ME DOCTOR - I'VE  
LEARNT MY  
LESSON



I AM REMINDED OF  
A COMMON ADAGE,  
SERGEANT.

'GREAT MINDS  
THINK ALIKE',  
SIR?

ACTUALLY  
BENTON, I WAS THINKING  
OF 'FOOLS SELDOM DIFFER



SEEMS LIKE THAT  
STORM'S HOLDING  
OFF, SIR

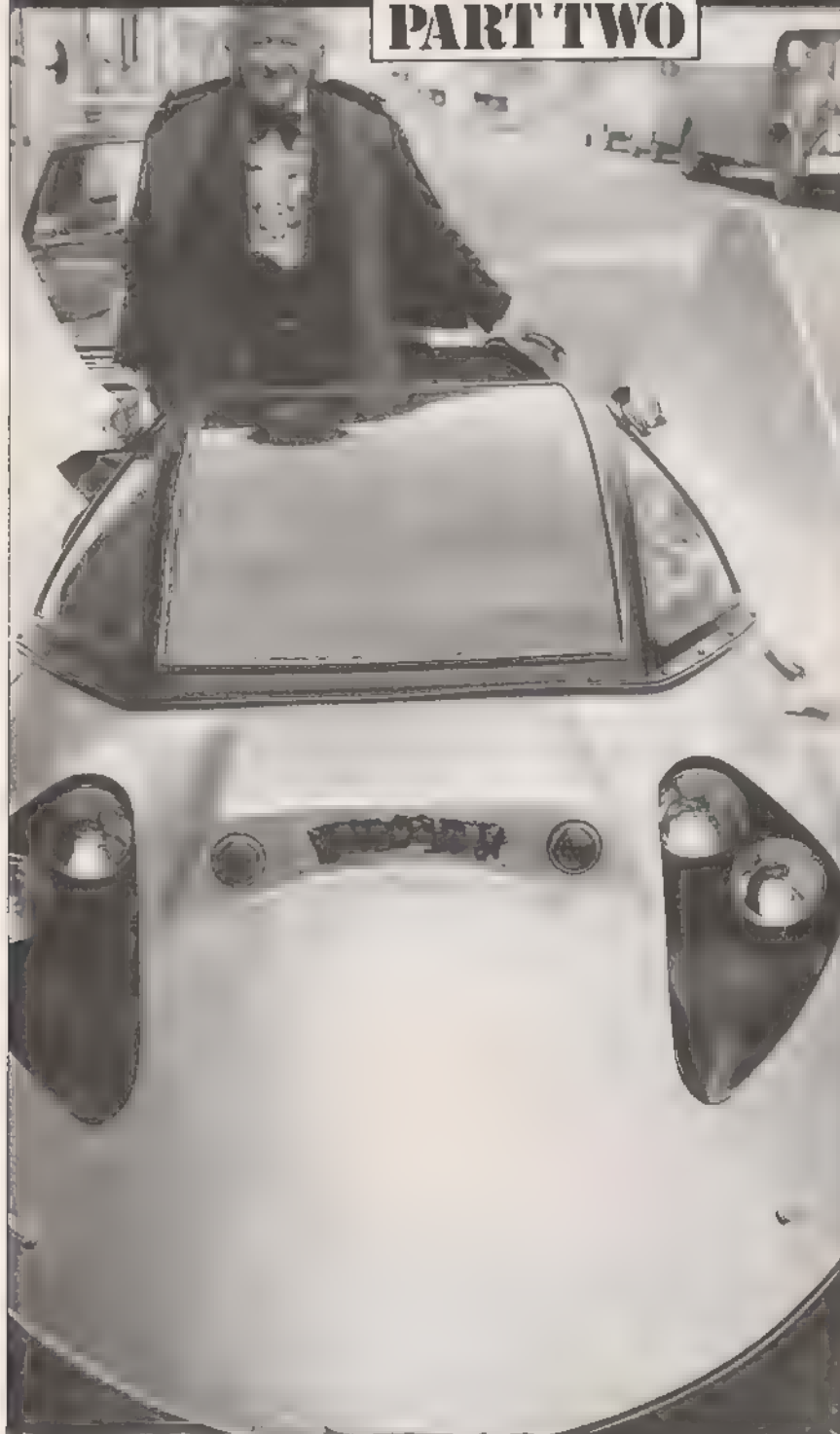
NOT  
FOR LONG,  
SERGEANT



"NOT FOR LONG"

# THE UNIT Story-

## PART TWO



Jon Pertwee shows off the Alien, which saw its first appearance in *Invasion of the Dinosaurs*. Photo © Rex Features.

"The *Dæmons* and *The Three Doctors* are the stories I liked best. My favourite memories are going to work with Jon in the Whomobile. One day the police pulled us over – not because we'd done anything, but because he just couldn't believe it! There was also the time when I was playing a Yeti [in *The Web of Fear*] and we tested the costumes on the public by walking out onto the street. It was a bit early in the morning but I remember this dog took one look at these Yeti ambling towards it and ran a mile!"

John Levene (Benton)

### THE GREEN DEATH

UNIT returned in force with Captain Yates' only serial of the season in *The Green Death*. This saw the departure of Katy Manning from the show after three seasons. By coincidence, the actor cast to play her romantic interest Clifford Jones was Stewart Bevan, her real-life boyfriend at the time. The regular team had become very close over the previous three seasons and rehearsals were very tense due to the feeling that Stewart was taking Katy away from the programme. The romance also caused problems for director Michael Briant on the serial.

For the action sequences at Global Chemicals which showed Captain Yates' escape, Richard Franklin again had a stuntman to double him. The factory was the newly opened Scotch Computer and Audio Tape factory near Merthyr Tydfil. Also on location, Bessie appeared with a larger engine and increased bonnet. This was because the Ford Popular engine had often proved troublesome on location and it had been returned to Glentura Plastics for the modifications.

Robert Sloman's script called for an RAF strike on the maggots and mine area, but after the RAF originally agreed to fly some Phantoms over the crew some Ministry of Defence cuts had the flight cancelled. With appropriate stock film unavailable, Briant hired a two-seater helicopter from which lavatory ballcocks disguised as bombs were dropped by AFM Karlyn Collier. Filming was done close to a disused NCB mine at Deri in South Wales during the second week of March 1973.

For scenes in the studio showing the cave of maggots, a raised set was built to hide the operators of the puppet monsters. When Benton had to cross the cave to rescue Jo and Cliff, Levene's large booted feet unwittingly trod on the hands of several puppeteers. Recording took place in TC3 on April 2nd/3rd, 16th/17th and 29th/30th, 1973.

With recording completed, a very upset Katy Manning left the show. Jon Pertwee, along with the rest of the regular cast, was very sad to see her go.

### THE TIME WARRIOR

UNIT appeared only briefly in the first episode of *The Time Warrior* as the Brigadier had the Doctor installed with a collection of top scientists. All these scenes were recorded with Nicholas Courtney in TC6 on 28th May 1974. This completed the tenth recording block, although the story would in fact start the eleventh season. Sarah Jane Smith was introduced as the Doctor's new companion. As a freelance journalist she was an indication that the Doctor's close association with UNIT was coming to an end.

### INVASION/INVASION OF THE DINOSAURS

The principle UNIT entry for the season was the first story of the next recording block: *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* (although the first episode was entitled





Giant maggots proved the final threat that the Doctor would face with Jo Grant. Photo © BBC.



Jo and Professor Clifford Jones (Stewart Bevan) in *The Green Death*. Photo © BBC.



UNIT finds itself up against a triceratops in the Underground in *Invasion of the Dinosaurs*. Photo © BBC.

*Invasion Part One*). Shooting at a wide variety of locations in London began on Sunday 2nd September 1973 under the auspices of Paddy Russell, taking in Westminster Bridge, Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and Billingsgate in the early morning. Shooting continued from 23rd to 29th September at other London locales, including Southall Gasworks and Pickfords Warehouse. A variety of Land-rovers were used for both UNIT and army transport, and featured in the chase sequences around Chiswick and Southall in Part Five, but the army helicopter seen during the chase was on stock footage.

The filming saw the introduction of the Doctor's new car, built during his time at UNIT. Built by Peter Ferries in real-life, the vehicle called the Alien (reg: WVO 2M) was dubbed 'the Whomobile' by the press as it made its debut on the programme, still minus its windscreen. Introduced by Pertwee for shooting at Covent Garden, it replaced a motorcycle in the script as the Doctor's mode of transport around London in Part Four.

Studio recording for *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* was done in TC6 on October 15th/16th, TC8 on October 29th/30th and TC3 on November 12th/13th 1973. UNIT set up a temporary HQ in a school on the edge of Central London, with the Doctor allocated a science laboratory to work in. UNIT was again seen to be working alongside the regular army, now directed by General Finch.



Photo © BBC.

## PLANET OF THE SPIDERS

Location filming for *Planet of the Spiders* was done during the second week of March 1974 with Barry Letts taking great delight in allowing Jon Pertwee a final action-packed chase sequence for Part Two which used a speed boat (which belonged to Pertwee), a one man hovercraft, an autogyro (G-AXVK), Bessie and the Alien. This was executed at Membury Airfield and on the surrounding roads, plus stretches of the River Severn near Newnham for

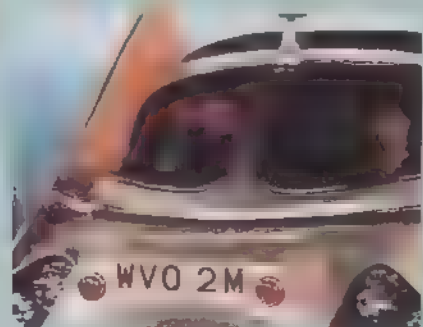


Image © BBC.

◀ two days. The Alien now appeared with its fully completed windscreen and roof. At the airfield there was one nasty incident where the autogyro originally hired got loose from its blocks and fell over, its rotor blades narrowly missing the actor John Dearth who was playing Lupton. Another autogyro had to be called for to replace the damaged one. The sequences at the UNIT car park were shot at Hopton Army Barracks at Devizes, with authentic army vehicles in the background. Parts of the Membury Airfield also appeared as UNIT's airstrip adjacent to the car park



For *Planet of the Spiders*, all the UNIT material was recorded in the first studio session on April 2nd/3rd, 1974, including the regeneration sequence from Jon Pertwee to Tom Baker for Part Six. The remainder of the story continued in studio until May 1st, 1974, thus overlapping with HQ work for the first Tom Baker story, *Robot*. Richard Franklin made his final regular appearance in the serial as Mike Yates, who had now left UNIT. He continued in the acting profession in various capacities, including a role in *Blake's 7* and a satire on the Falklands called *Recall UNIT - The Great Tea Bag Mystery* at the Edinburgh Festival...

It was also in Part One of *Planet of the Spiders* that Professor Herbert Clegg unwittingly embarrassed the Brigadier when deducing that his wristwatch was given to him eleven years ago in a Brighton hotel by a grateful young lady called Doris...

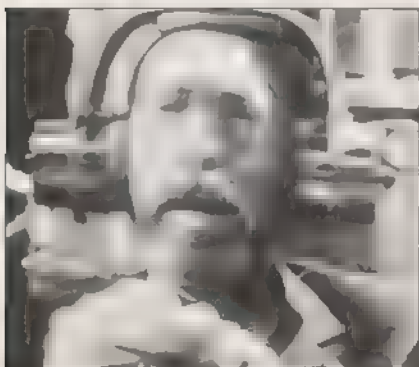


Photo © BBC.

Tom Baker's debut as the Fourth Doctor in *Robot* saw a change of direction for the programme and end to the UNIT era. Photo © BBC.

## ROBOT

Lieutenant Harry Sullivan, UNIT's medical officer, was created by Barry Letts as a secondary male lead who, if necessary, could take on a lot of the action sequences had an elder actor been cast as the Doctor or should Tom Baker's portrayal of the lead part not be as athletic as his predecessor. For the new character, Letts cast Ian Marter whom he had previously directed in *Carnival of Monsters*. Marter had worked at the Bristol Old Vic, at the Edinburgh Festival and in the West End, as well as television including *The Brothers*, *The Venturers* and *Crown Court*. Dr. Sullivan was referred to before he appeared in Part Two of *Planet of the Spiders*.

*Robot* was to be one of the last serials to show UNIT at full strength, and as such was closer to the style of a Jon Pertwee serial than a Tom Baker one. The rising cost of fuel had restricted the range of the production team with regards to vehicles and exterior material. As with *Spearhead from Space*, *Robot* was hampered by industrial action as it started production. For the first time on the show, Outside Broadcast (OB) videotape was used to record the outdoor material as opposed to shooting on 16mm film.

Most location sequences were taped at the BBC's training centre for engineers at Wood Norton near

Evesham in Worcestershire from 28th April to 1st May 1974. The use of videotape meant that special effects could be achieved better by means of CSOing other images onto the outside material during the studio sessions, hopefully eliminating the problems with film/VT mix on *Invasion of the Dinosaurs*. One such example was the Action Man Palitoy tank called by the Brigadier in Part Three, which worked very poorly. This had been an idea from Letts which director Chris Barry had been reluctant to attempt. Barry would rather have called for help from the Army, but the budget would not allow this. Also from Palitoy, other Action Men appeared in the CSO effects sequences as UNIT soldiers attacked by the enormous rampaging K1 robot. The UNIT helicopter seen in Part One over Emmett Electronics came from stock news material. The three Land-rovers which appeared as the other UNIT transport were, thankfully, real. Several battle and action sequences with UNIT were recorded, the one against the robot in Part Four featuring a grenade launcher.

The serial marked the final appearance for some years of Bessie. It was looked after by BBC Enterprises and in the late 1970s started to appear outside the permanent *Doctor Who* Exhibition at Blackpool. Also in the time between *Planet of the Spiders* and *Robot* (approximately three weeks), Benton had been





*The Android Invasion. Photo © BBC.*

promoted to the rank of warrant Officer – since the Brigadier should have had both a Major and Captain on his staff, but the UNIT budget was too small. The character's billings for this story remained as 'Sergeant Benton' and those for subsequent serials read 'RSM Benton', neither of which were entirely accurate. The recording in studio had an abortive start in TC3 on 21st May and then continued on June 1st, 2nd, 6th and 7th 1974. This completed the eleventh recording block

## TERROR OF THE ZYGONS

Both new script editor Robert Holmes and incoming producer Philip Hinchcliffe felt that UNIT had really had its day and elected to phase it out completely over the coming seasons. The next UNIT serial, *Terror of the Zygons*, was originally planned to conclude the twelfth season but was held over to start the thirteenth in August 1975. It was clear that Tom Baker was also unhappy about the inclusion of UNIT, a feeling registered by both Courtney and Levene who could see that the actor was trying to add his own style to the show. Nicholas Courtney discussed the situation in the BBC Club with Philip Hinchcliffe and suggested that the Brigadier could be killed off if UNIT were not to continue. Hinchcliffe was reluctant to adopt this idea, although Courtney and Levene both felt as if they were making their final appearances on the show.

Location filming for the story took place around Bognor Regis in late March 1975, with the hamlet of Chariton appearing as Tullock Moor. The story came under the direction of Douglas Camfield, who made his first appearance in the series since his collapse on *Inferno*. He was unhappy with the

finished story for a variety of reasons, notably the model work which appeared to be very rough. Camfield also disapproved of the new UNIT uniforms that had been introduced in his absence, feeling they looked too soft. The hardware that was available for UNIT was also a sign that its heyday was over. A jeep and a Land-rover were all that appeared, save for the mortar used for the attack on Loch Ness in Part Three. The Brigadier was seen to wear the Stewart tartan, as a member of the noble clan, in the first and final episodes.

UNIT HQ was represented by a single radio room in Part Four. Additional scenes with the Brigadier and his men being gassed at the Fox Inn had to be recorded for Part Two when Camfield was forced to abandon disappointing model footage of the Skarsen crossing the moor. Studio recording for *Terror of the Zygons* took place on April 7th/8th, 1975 in TC3 and April 22nd/23rd, 1975 in TC4.

## PYRAMIDS OF MARS

UNIT was referred to in *Pyramids of Mars* in as much as the Doctor intended to land back at UNIT's London HQ after leaving Loch Ness, only to find that Sutekh's time/space corridor had drawn the TARDIS off course. The vessel materialised in the right place, but in 1911 at the Old Priory which was soon to be burnt down. In this story, Sarah confirmed that she came from 1980 – dating the UNIT serials of this era

## THE ANDROID INVASION

UNIT next appeared in *The Android Invasion* which was directed by Barry Letts and started filming from July 22nd to 24th, 1975. The area visited by the crew included East Hagbourne and Bagley Woods in Oxfordshire, and also the unopened Harwell Atomic Power Station in Berkshire. For location filming at the quarry, stuntman Peter Brace doubled for Max Faulkner in the sequence where Corporal Adams took a deadly fall . . . only to appear later unscathed.

Terry Nation's script featured the returns of Harry Sullivan, Sergeant Benton and the Brigadier, but it soon became clear that Nicholas Courtney's commitment to a theatre run would mean that he would be unavailable. Very



*The Doctor dealt with the dangers posed by Eldrad aided only by Sarah Jane Smith in The Hand of Fear. Image © BBC.*



Bessie disappeared from *Doctor Who* with *Robot*, returning in 1989 in *Battlefield*. Photo © BBC.



The Krynoid menace was dealt with by a new UNIT team that made only one appearance. Photo © BBC.

late in the day, the rôle was mildly rewritten as first Brigadier Faraday and then Colonel Faraday, and the late Patrick Newell played the character in Part Four. Studio recording took place on August 11th/12th, 1975 in TC3 and August 25th/26th, 1975 in TC8.

*The Android Invasion* was to be the final serial for both John Levene and Ian Marter. Ian Marter continued acting on stage and in television until he tragically died from his diabetic condition in 1985. He also novelised several *Doctor Who* serials for Target including *The Invasion* and wrote an original novel entitled *Harry Sullivan's War*. John Levene attempted to launch an audio visual company, became a hospital DJ and private eye, before returning to acting as John Anthony Blake.

## THE SEEDS OF DOOM

The inclusion of UNIT in their next serial *The Seeds of Doom* was almost an afterthought which precluded the appearance of any regulars. Robert Holmes also felt that to use characters other than the regulars would distance

the Doctor even further from his association to UNIT. The action sequences with UNIT and their new laser rifle (a bazooka affair with a flash attached to the end) did not come until the later episodes, and it was agreed that there was too little material to warrant the use of the Brigadier and Benton. Thus the parts of Major Beresford and Sergeant Henderson were written up more than in original drafts from Robert Banks Stewart. It was the final serial to be handled by Douglas Camfield, who was to become one of the most respected and admired directors on television. After working on other television and mini-series such as *The Sweeney*, *Target* and *Shoestring*, he died peacefully in his sleep on January 27th, 1984.

*The Seeds of Doom* saw the use of OB for location work, again to integrate it better with the videotaped material from the studio sessions. UNIT featured prominently in material recorded at Athelhampton House, near Dorchester – the building which appeared as Harrison Chase's mansions. These scenes were recorded over the last week of

October 1975. Studio recording for the UNIT sequences was restricted to the final session in TC8 over December 15th/16th, 1975.

## THE YEARS BETWEEN

With the departure of Sarah Jane Smith in *The Hand of Fear*, the production team severed the links with UNIT and the exile to Earth in general. Until the early Eighties there were only very brief references to the organisation. In *Logopolis*, the Doctor glimpsed his old friends including Harry (from *The Sontaran Experiment*) and the Brigadier (from *Invasion of the Dinosaurs*) as his life passed before his eyes. The Brigadier was mentioned by the erratic Doctor in Part One of *Castrovalva* and then when the TARDIS landed at Heathrow Airport in the present day (circa 1982), the Doctor identified himself as UNIT's scientific adviser and referred airport security to Sir John Sudbury of Department C19 during *Time-Flight* Part One.

## MAWDRYN UNDEAD

The intention of the twentieth season was that every serial should have some link to the show's past, and in the cast of the third serial, Peter Grimwade's *Mawdryn Undead*, it was hoped that the public school setting would allow Ian Chesterton to appear again. Soon the part of the teacher was rewritten, and Nicholas Courtney found himself being asked to recreate the role of Alastair Gordon Lethbridge Stewart, now retired and teaching maths for a living.

Peter Moffatt started a four day location shoot at Trent Park Training College, Barnet at the end of August 1982, and Courtney found himself playing not just one, but two Brigadiers – one from 1977, the other from 1983. The fact that the Brigadier had just joined the school's staff in 1977 unfortunately contradicted previous continuity of dates established by the UNIT stories. It was not the first time that Courtney had worked with Peter Davison, as past projects together had included *Sink or Swim* and *All Creatures Great and Small*.

A special montage sequence of sepia tinted flashbacks was compiled for Part Two as the Brigadier regained his memory. This faded in from Courtney in the studio to himself in a similar pose taking in the TARDIS interior for the first time in *The Three Doctors*. Other clips featured the first two Doctors (*The Three Doctors*), Yeti (*The Web of Fear*), a Cyberman (*The Invasion*), the third Doctor (*Spearhead from Space*), a Dalek (*Day of the Daleks*), Axons (*The Claws of Axos*), the fourth Doctor and Zygons (*Terror of the Zygons*) and the K1 (*Robot*). Not all these extracts actually came from scenes where the Brigadier was present! Liz Shaw and Jo Grant were referred to briefly, whilst the Brigadier revealed that Benton left the army to sell second-hand cars in 1979 and Harry was doing top secret work for NATO at Portland Down.

The Brigadier now lived alone in a hut on the school grounds, in which was displayed a photograph of him in uniform



from *The Claws of Axos*. He was also seen to own a vintage car, a 1929 Humber 1650 Open Tourer Imperial Model, which was 'borrowed' by Turlough and Ibbotson at the start of the story. It was the meeting with his 1983 self that caused the Brigadier of 1977 to experience a 'nervous breakdown' and lose his memory. The other Brigadier required for the meeting sequence was played by Richard Shekkey, who was only visible from behind. Courtney wore a false moustache as the 1977 Brigadier, whilst his 1983 counterpart was clean-shaven.

## THE FIVE DOCTORS

During production of *Mawdryn Undead*, producer John Nathan-Turner asked Nicholas Courtney to return again for *The Five Doctors*, the show's twentieth anniversary special where as many faces from the past as possible would be reunited. John Levene and Katy Manning were contacted but were not able to appear, and Ian Marter was busy with television work in New Zealand. Shortly before recording both Richard Franklin and Caroline John confirmed that they could record a scene as Mike Yates and Liz Shaw. For this story, Courtney actually grew an authentic moustache for his appearance as the Brigadier.

Production for Peter Moffatt's special programme began in March 1983, with Courtney travelling to the area of Ffestunog in North Wales to shoot scenes in the Death Zone wilderness and caves from March 7th to 14th.

To retain continuity, the location for UNIT HQ selected was the YMCA Hostel off Tilehouse Lane at Denham as it had been in *The Three Doctors*, and the



scenes with the Brigadier and second Doctor being kidnapped were shot on March 17th. The following day saw the final filming session with the UNIT HQ interior scenes executed at Ealing Film Studios -- since there was too little space in the videotape studio for a set to be erected for one brief scene. This showed the Brigadier on the day of his retirement from UNIT, handing over to Colonel Crichton as his replacement. The area around Denham Aerodrome was also used to film the sequences of the third Doctor being kidnapped in Bessie, the vehicle having appeared for some years outside the Blackpool BBC *Doctor Who* Exhibition since *Robot*.

The studio taping block was then done in TC6 over March 29th to 31st, 1983. Richard Franklin appeared as Yates wearing only a stock Army uniform which did not bear the UNIT insignia.

## Battlefield gear



Main pictures: extras prepare for a battle sequence in the latest UNIT TV story to date; one of the trucks used as part of the missile convoy; and the crashed missile carrier, surrounded by UNIT troops in the new blue berets. Inset: the new UNIT logo for the story. Photos © Stuart Hill and Image © BBC.



# CENTRE STAGE WITH UNIT



## CENTRE STAGE WITH UNIT

**T**he idea to reunite UNIT in a stage play was first mooted at DoctorCon in 1983, the first non-*Doctor Who* Appreciation Society convention ever in Britain. The guests were Richard Franklin, John Levene and Terrance Dicks, and during one panel, the idea of bringing the UNIT gang back together was raised. John thought that this was a great idea, and Richard offered to write a play to be performed as part of the following year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

My own involvement started after Richard saw a show called *Clutter*, in which I was appearing and approached me to play a part in the new UNIT show. I ended up playing the character Jimmy, a servant of the Master - disguised as a *Doctor Who* fan no less!



The show began on the 17th August 1984 at The Moray House Theatre, the first public preview of Richard's new work, now entitled *Recalled UNIT or The Great Tea Bag Mystery*. However, this was not the original plan. When rehearsals started on August 6th at The Lockhart Memorial Church Hall we all thought we would be appearing at the Edinburgh Playhouse Studio Theatre, but this space had unfortunately been double-booked. If it hadn't been for the kindness of Moray House College, the show would have been scrapped there and then.

At that first rehearsal I was introduced to the rest of the cast, some of whom I already knew. It was strange meeting people who were part of my childhood. Every Saturday I had happily sat down to

watch John Levene as Benton, and Richard as Yates, and yet here they were in the very same show as myself, all of us learning and fluffing our way through our lines together. Originally Jon Pertwee, who was appearing at the Liverpool Garden Festival at the time, had agreed to make a special guest appearance on the Friday afternoon, but he had to pull out when it proved impossible to arrange a return flight that could get him up for the performance and back to Liverpool for another appearance that same evening. Billed as the Supreme Dalek, John Scott Martin replaced Jon as special guest with a wonderful self parody - He doesn't need a ring-modulator to do a Dalek voice either!

Nicholas Courtney also pulled out due to work commitments, but did pre-record a telephone message which was written into the plot. There was only one other change in the cast throughout the preparations, when Andy Canon who was originally to play Tim dropped out, and was replaced by Kevin Phillpotts. After much rehearsal, every day from 10am to 5pm from the 6th to the 16th, and having worked our way through two musical directors, we finally opened with the first official performance of the show at 10.30am on Monday 20th August. The show ran for an hour and a half, and was followed by a second performance at 2.45pm. Audiences varied at first, but by the twelfth and final performance on the Saturday there were quite a few 'burns on seats', including fans from as far away as the States and Canada.

*Recall UNIT* was a great experience, but working with your childhood heroes is at once both exciting and sad in a strange sort of way, as you realise that underneath the costume and make-up they too are ordinary people just like yourself. Would I do it again? Well... perhaps.

**Liam Michael-Rudden**



Liam Rudden with Flossie the *Recall UNIT* Dalek. Photo © Stuart Halliday.



## RECALL UNIT: THE GREAT T-BAG MYSTERY

The next two visual appearances of UNIT were of a different nature and not directly related to the *Doctor Who* programme. The first was *Recall UNIT: The Great T-Bag Mystery*, a play for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival written by Richard Franklin, who also directed it. With two performances daily at the Nightclub Edinburgh Playhouse from August 20th to 25th 1984, it was hoped that Nicholas Courtney and John Levene would rejoin Franklin, plus Jon Pertwee for one special performance. Franklin was inspired to write a UNIT play after attending a convention, and had already written a piece called *Shakespeare Was A Hunchback*. With help from experts on the show like George Cairns, the script was written, and then Nicholas Courtney had to drop out due to TV work. A replacement was found in the form of Richard Kettles who played Major Molesworth and took on the Brigadier's rôle. Courtney did however record an introduction for the new character on tape to be played at each performance. Due to the number of plays at the festival, some of the audiences for the play were as low as ten.

The plot was packed with in-jokes and concerned a mysterious Miss Bergbo hiring a theatre to audition acts to entertain troops and politicians in the Falklands. The hopefuls included three unemployed ex-TV actors, Benton, Yates and Molesworth. After two hours of farce, song, transvesticism and wild gongs on, there was a climactic confrontation with the evil Dragoids and the Supreme Dalek even put in an appearance.

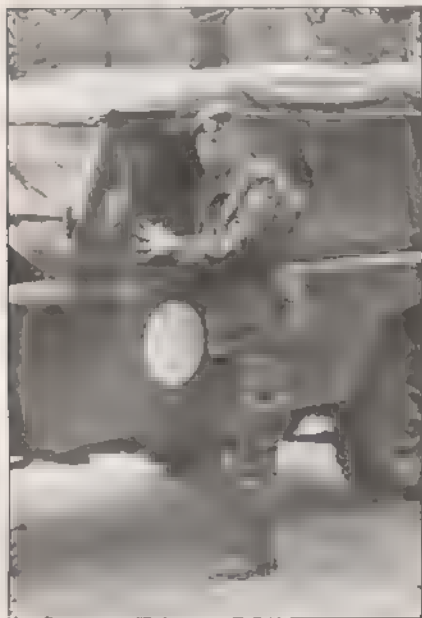


Photo © Reeltime Pictures.

Image © BBC.

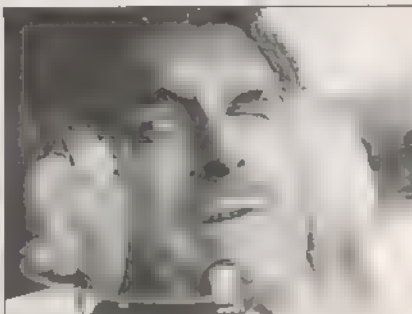
## WARTIME

John Levene was also back in his rôle as Benton in a more serious vein during 1987 when he recorded *Wartime*, a short film made by Reeltime Pictures. The story, set sometime between *The Android Invasion* and *The Five Doctors* had Benton still in UNIT and Michael Wisher appearing as Benton's father.

The project was completed near a folly on Lord Leverhulme's estate in Lancaster over three days, including work with a UNIT Land-rover. The thirty-five minute tape was released by Reeltime in August 1988 and was a highly dramatic ghost story that started with Benton transporting a strange box to UNIT HQ. But the trip through the countryside is one which takes him into his past, where it seems his own father is leading an attack against him. The director and producer was Keith Barnfather, from a script by Andy Lane and Helen Stirling.

## BATTLEFIELD

UNIT's most recent appearances to date on television was in *Battlefield* where Ben Aaronovitch decided to ignore the continuity problems of *Mawdryn Undead* and make a passing reference to Lethbridge Stewart giving up teaching. He was now married to Doris, referred to in *Planet of the Spiders* and lived in retirement. Recalled due to the affair of the Salamander 60 nuclear missile convoy, the Brigadier was now part of a truly international UNIT force with Czech and Russian troops, and a black female leader in the form of Brigadier Winifred Bambara. Clad in standard combat gear, UNIT's troops now sported blue United Nations berets with an insignia of the world between two golden wings instead of the circular mesh design in earlier years. The Doctor also produced his old UNIT pass (as seen in *The Mind of Evil* and *The Sea Devils* maybe) and a similar item so Ace could pass herself off as Liz Shaw. It also indicated that Zbrigniev had served with UNIT during the Doctor's time with the organisation. The attention to detail was generally good, and surprising considering that Aaronovitch's initial drafts were a contemporary ecological thriller serial without UNIT.



Nicholas Courtney was approached in September 1988 to appear in the serial, but was offered a run in *M. Butterfly* in the West End. John Nathan Turner tried to move the recording dates, but to no avail, and in the end Courtney again set about growing a moustache to return to *Doctor Who*. He was very impressed with the script and there was some debate as to how the story should end regarding the Brigadier. The three options were to kill the Brigadier off, leave a question mark over his survival, or to let him live. Ultimately, the final option was selected.

The production team used a great deal of hardware in UNIT's comeback, not least for the Salamander convoy with lorries and vans. UNIT's helicopter, Uniform November 90 piloted by Flt-Lt

Lavelli, collected the Brigadier from his picturesque home, only to be blasted out of the sky by the dark forces of Morgane. Bessie was also brought out of retirement for the final two episodes, now sporting the numberplate of WHO7.



Image © BBC.

*Battlefield* began location recording on OB on May 7th 1989 at Hambleton, a village near Rutland where the scenes for the Gore Crow Hotel were created at Hambleton Old Hall. These saw the comeback of Bessie, safely returned from America where it had formed part of the show's touring exhibition since 1986. Recording continued on May 8th, but then a strike meant that no work could then be undertaken until May 11th when the excavation site scenes were taped at Rutland Water, Wing near Oakham. The battle sequences between UNIT and Morgane's troops were recorded here. In addition to Michael Kerrigan's main unit, John Nathan Turner took a second unit, as he had done on *The Five Doctors*, to handle some additional sequences. OB recording continued up to May 17th at a variety of venues. The Brigadier was initially seen at a garden centre at Fulmer Plant Park, Fulmer, Bucks. The house where the Lethbridge Stewarts lived was Little Paston at Fulmer, and some of the helicopter material was executed at Black Park in Bucks. The church and memorial were at Hambleton in Leicestershire, with Twyford Woods near Corby in Northants and Castle Cement wasteground at Ketton in Lincolnshire also appearing. The studio sequences were made in TC3 from May 30th to June 1st 1989.

Disappointingly, several of the scenes involving Doris Lethbridge Stewart in Part Four were deleted. Intercut with her husband's climactic confrontation with the Destroyer these featured her hearing a radio report about events in South-West England with quotes from the General-Secretary of UNIT saying there were no casualties. She then tried to contact Geneva to leave a message for Alastair. She loves him... and he still has work to do in the garden.

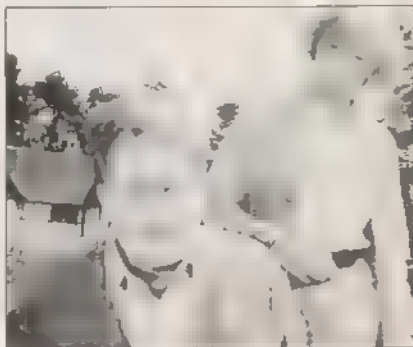
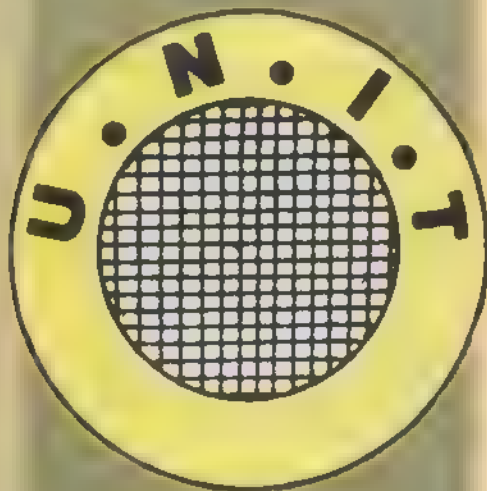
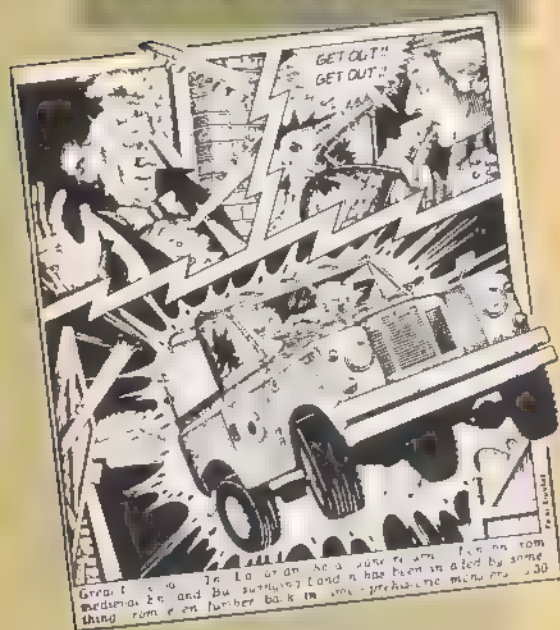


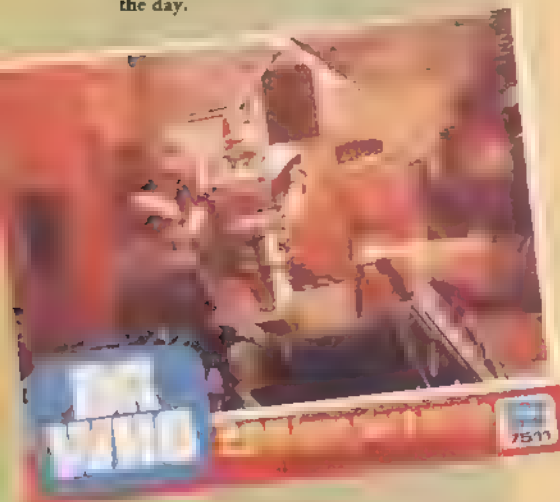
Image © BBC.



## THE MEMORANDA



UNIT was not featured in many *Radio Times* articles but its vehicles and staff frequently appeared in many of the illustrations for the *Doctor Who* listings of the day.



One of the four Whitman jigsaws.

UNIT began to feature in the series strip running in Polystyle's *TV Comic* with the first story to depict Jon Pertwee as the Doctor in Issue 944 (w/e 17th January, 1970). The Brigadier appeared with Liz and Bessie, being introduced with the story starting in Issue 960. UNIT, the Brigadier and Liz made their final appearances in John Canning's artwork in Issue 976 (w/e 29th August 1970) after six serials. When the strip transferred to *Countdown* in February 1971, the Doctor was referred to as using UNIT funds to repair the TARDIS, but the organisation itself did not feature in the strip. Mention was made of the Brigadier and UNIT in the story *The Unheard Voice* in Issue 131 (w/e 18th August 1973) after the comic had become *TV Action*. UNIT featured in the two *Doctor Who Holiday Specials* produced by Polystyle Publications in 1973 and 1974, in addition to stories such as that in *TV Comic Holiday Special* 1973 and 1974 from Polystyle.

*TV Comic Annual* featured UNIT in two strip stories in the edition published in Autumn 1970. World Distributors' *The Doctor Who Annual* featured UNIT in both stories and strips, in the editions printed in the Autumns of 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1976, with stories reprinted in collections such as *The Amazing World of Doctor Who*, *Doctor Who - Journey Through Time* and *Doctor Who - Adventures in Time and Space*. World Distributors' *The Doctor Who Colouring Book* published in 1973 also depicted UNIT and the Brigadier in the illustrations.

As part of a promotion campaign in 1971, Kellogg's *Sugar Smacks* depicted Jon Pertwee's Doctor on the box, and inside each carton was one of six badges that could be collected. These included Jo Grant, Bessie, the Brigadier and a UNIT logo. A cardboard cut-out model of Bessie also appeared on the rear of the boxes.

There was a black and white publicity photo of the Brigadier issued as a card by the BBC in 1972, followed by a colour postcard of him from *Maudrynn Undead* in 1983. 1972 also saw Piccolo's edition of *The Making of Doctor Who* in which UNIT memoranda were used to tell various serials from *Spearhead from Space* up to *The Sea Devils*.

Several pieces of music from Brigadier/UNIT serials were commercially issued. The first was the BBC Radiophonic Workshop's album *BBC Radiophonic Music* (BBC Records, REC 25M) issued in 1971. This included two stock tracks composed by Delia Derbyshire and used in *Inferno: The Delian Mode* and *Blue Veils and Golden Sands*. The second was a demonstration flexa-disc *Sounds from ... EMS* from Electronic Music Studios (London) Ltd in 1972 and incorporated two Dudley Simpson tracks: *Axon Attack* and *Doctor Who* (music from *The Mind of Evil*) realised on EMS equipment. Another track from *The Mind of Evil* featured on BBC Radiophonic Workshop-21 (BBC Records REC 354) in 1979. Peter Howell's score for *The Five Doctors* was arranged into a suite of music for *Doctor Who - The Music II* (BBC Records and Tapes, REM 552 and ZCR 552). The incidental tracks by Paddy Kingsland for *Maudrynn Undead* were released on a tape called *The Corridor of Eternity* (Julian Knott, JPD1) in 1990.

As *Target* started to release their adaptations of the television series in 1973, the majority of UNIT/Brigadier stories have - to date - been covered. In paperback, these comprise *Doctor Who and the Auton Invasion* by Terrance Dicks (Jan 1974), *Doctor Who and the Cave-Monsters* by Malcolm Hulke (Jan 1974), *Doctor Who and the Doomsday Weapon* by Malcolm Hulke (Mar 1974/US Pinnacle Apr 1979), *Doctor Who and the Day of the Daleks* (Mar 1974/US Pinnacle Apr 1979), *Doctor Who and the Dæmons* by Barry Letts (May 1974), *Doctor Who and the Giant Robot* by Terrance Dicks (Mar 1975), *Doctor Who and the Terror of the Autons* by Terrance Dicks (Apr 1975), *Doctor Who and the Green Death* by Malcolm Hulke (Aug 1975), *Doctor Who and the Planet of the Spiders* by Terrance Dicks (Oct 1975), *Doctor Who - The Three Doctors* by Terrance Dicks (Nov 1975), *Doctor Who and the Loch Ness Monster* by Terrance Dicks (Jan 1976/US Pinnacle Jun 1979), *Doctor Who and the Dinosaur Invasion* by Malcolm Hulke (Feb 1976/US Pinnacle May 1979), *Doctor Who and the Web of Fear* by Terrance Dicks (Aug 1976), *Doctor Who and the Seeds of Doom* by Philip Hinchcliffe (Feb 1977/US Pinnacle Mar 1980), *Doctor Who and the Claws of Axos* by Terrance Dicks (Apr 1977), *Doctor Who and the Time Warrior* by Terrance Dicks [and Robert Holmes] (Jun 1978), *Doctor Who and the Android Invasion* by Terrance Dicks (Nov 1978/US Pinnacle Jan 1980), *Doctor Who - The Five Doctors* (Nov 1983), *Doctor Who - Maudrynn Undead* by Peter Grimwade (Jan 1984), *Doctor Who - Inferno* by Terrance Dicks (Oct 1984), *Doctor Who - The Mind of Evil* by Terrance Dicks (Jul 1985), *Doctor Who - The Invasion* by Ian Marter (Oct 1985), *Doctor Who - The Time Monster* by Terrance Dicks (Feb 1986), *Doctor Who - The Ambassadors of Death* by Terrance Dicks (Oct 1987) and *Doctor Who - Battlefield* by Marc Platt (July 1991). Also issued was a simplified version of one book called *Junior Doctor Who and the Giant Robot* (Dec 1979). Ian Marter wrote a novel called *Harry Sullivan's War*, a spy thriller published by Target in September 1986 which involved not only his character Harry Sullivan, but also the Brigadier. Several of the standard paperback books were reissued in two book compilations as part of the *Doctor Who Classics* titles over 1988/9 by Star Books. Others appeared as paperbacks in the eight boxed *Doctor Who Gift Sets* issued by Target from 1982 to 1985.

In January 1975, *Whitman* issued a set of four jigsaws (set 7511) featuring four colour photographs taken during the making of *Robot*. One of these featured UNIT troops attacking the robot, whilst another depicted the Doctor with Harry and the Brigadier in a UNIT jeep.



Also early in 1975, the Nestlé Company issued their second set of chocolate bars associated with the series. *Doctor Who Milk Chocolate* came with six different wrappers to collect, three of which were the Brigadier, Harry and Benton.

When **Marvel** took up the option to produce comic strip adventures for the series, UNIT appeared in both principle and back-up strips. Some of these were also reprinted in the *Marvel US Doctor Who* colour comic, as listed. The organisation was present in Blackcastle at the climax of the Wrath Warriors' pursuit of Beep the Meep (*Doctor Who and the Star Beast: Doctor Who Weekly* #19-26/*Doctor Who* #1-2); encountered Zygons in December 1985 at an arctic base (*Skywatch-7: Doctor Who Monthly* #58 and *Winter Special* 1981, Reprinted #85/*Doctor Who* #21-22); and encountered the Dominators and Quarks in an Icelandic volcano in 1984 (*The Fires Down Below: Doctor Who Monthly* #64/*Doctor Who* #22). UNIT was revived in its *Battlefield* form recently in *Darkness Falling* (*Doctor Who Magazine* #167) and then in *The Mark of Mandragora* (*Doctor Who Magazine* #169-172) where UNIT investigated the latest drug craze of Mandrake around the year 1999. *The Man in the Iron Mask* (*Doctor Who Winter Special* 1991) featured the Third Doctor, UNIT and the Master and *Evening's Empire* (*Doctor Who Magazine* #180-185) is set shortly after the *Mandragora* story.

*Doctor Who Weekly* offered readers a chance to join UNIT in Issues 26 and 27 by clipping out coupons and sending off for a membership card and code book. Up to Issue 43, the comic featured a UNIT page with messages that could be decoded by members – or anyone else for that matter – using their cypher books.

The only article firmly related to UNIT run by the *Radio Times* was in 1983 to promote the return of the Brigadier in *Mawdryn Undead*. A one-page colour article entitled *Guess Who's Coming Back* by Vicky Payne was run in Vol 238 No. 3090 (29th Jan – 4th Feb 1983).

Security guards at the Twentieth Anniversary *Doctor Who* convention at Longleat could be seen wearing UNIT patches, but these were never sold as merchandise.

During 1986, **Citadel Miniatures** issued a set of three figures in their *Doctor Who* range. Pack 4 included the Brigadier with two UNIT troops. Fine Art Castings also issued a Brigadier in their 80mm set in 1986, plus a Brigadier, a Yates and UNIT troops in their 40mm set the same year.

Several of the UNIT-related serials have been released on commercial videotape by BBC Video. These are *The Five Doctors* (VHS/Beta BBCV/B 2020, VHS BBCV 4387) in September 1985 and July 1990, *Day of the Daleks* (VHS/Beta BBCV/B 2036, VHS BBC 4245) in July 1986 and February 1988, *Spearhead from Space* (VHS BBCV 4107) in February 1988, *Terror of the Zygons* (VHS BBCV 4186) in November 1988, *The Time Warrior* (VHS BBCV 4245) in June 1989, *Planet of the Spiders* (Double VHS BBCV 4491) in April 1991 and *The Three Doctors* (August 1991).

Andrew Pixley



Comic strip action from DWM Issue 64, one of many graphic adventures that have featured the organisation. *Fires Down Below* was drawn by John Stokes and written by John Peel.



A selection of UNIT merchandise, courtesy of collector David Howe: from left to right, the Citadel Miniatures of UNIT characters; the free UNIT membership card (two copies, one open displaying the UNIT oath) offered to *Doctor Who Weekly* readers in the magazine's early days, obviously produced at great expense; another of the Whitman jigsaws and directly in front the 80mm Brigadier Fine Art Castings figure; the BBC-released colour postcard of Nicholas Courtney, circa the continuity-shattering *Mawdryn Undead*; and two Nestlé chocolate bar wrappers.

# WHO, WHAT, WHEN?



A rehearsal shot for *Doctor Who and the Silurians*. Note the lack of moustache for the Brigadier. Photo © BBC.

## CAST

(Letters in brackets refer to story codes eg: QQ = *The Web of Fear*)  
 Nicholas Courtney (*Colonel/Brigadier Lethbridge Stewart*; QQ, VV, AAA-KKK, OOO, RRR, TTT-WWW, ZZZ, 4A, 4F, 6F, 6K, 7N), John Levene (*Corporal/Sergeant/RSM Benton*; VV, CCC-GGG, JJJ, KKK, OOO, RRR, TTT, WWW, ZZZ, 4A, 4F, 4J), Caroline John (*Liz Shaw*; AAA DDD, 6K), Katy Manning (*Jo Grant*, EEE-TTT), Richard Franklin (*Captain Mike Yates*; EEE-GGG, JJJ, KKK, OOO, TTT, WWW, ZZZ, 6K), Ian Marter (*Harry Sullivan*; 4A-4F, 4J)

with

Murray Evans (*Lorry Driver*; VV), Geoffrey Cheshire (*Tracy*; VV), James Thornhill (*Sergeant Walters*; VV), Robert Sidaway (*Captain Turner*; VV), Stacy Davies (*Private Perkins*; VV), Ellis Jones (*Technician*; AAA), Tessa Shaw (*UNIT Officer*; AAA), John Breslin (*Captain Munro*; AAA), George Lee (*Corporal Forbes*; AAA), Iain Smith (*UNIT Soldier*; AAA), Clifford Cox (*Sergeant*; AAA), Paul Darrow (*Captain Hawkins*; BBB), Richard Steele (*Sergeant Hart*; BBB), Harry Swift (*Private Robins*; BBB), Derek Pollitt (*Private Wright*; BBB), Alan Mason (*Corporal Nutting*; BBB), James Haswell (*Corporal Champion*; CCC), Derek Ware (*UNIT Sergeant*; CCC/Private Wyatt; DDD), Max Faulkner (*UNIT soldier*; CCC/Corporal Adams; 4J), James Clayton (*Private Parker*; CCC), Geoffrey Beevers (*Private Johnson*; CCC), David Simeon (*Private Latimer*; DDD), Fernanda Marlowe (*Corporal Bell*, FFF, GGG), Patrick Godfrey (*Major Cosworth*, FFF), Michael Walker (*1st Radar Operator*; GGG), David G. March (*2nd Radar Operator*; GGG), Paul Grist (*Filer*; GGG), Nick Hobbs (*Nuton Driver*; GGG), Alec Linstead (*Sgt Osgood*, JJJ), Gypsy Kemp (*UNIT Radio Operator*; KKK), Simon Legree (*UNIT Sergeant*; OOO), Denys Palmer (*Corporal Palmer*; RRR), George Bryson (*Private Ogden*; WWW), John Caesar (*R/T soldier*; WWW), Pat Gorman (*UNIT Corporal*; WWW/Soldier; ZZZ), Colin Bell (*Private Bryson*; WWW), Bernard G. High (*Corporal*; 4F), Peter Symonds (*Soldier*; 4F), Patrick Newell (*Colonel Faraday*; 4J), John Acheson (*Major Beresford*; 4L), Ray Barron (*Sergeant Henderson*; 4L), David Savile (*Colonel Crichton*, 6K), Ray Float (*Sergeant*; 6K), Angela Bruce (*Brigadier Winifred Bambera*; 7N), Robert Jezek (*Sergeant Zbrigniew*; 7N), Dorota Rae (*Flight Lieutenant Lavel*; 7N), Paul Tomanay (*Major Husak*; 7N).

## EXTRAS

*Doctor Who and the Silurians* Brian Haughton, Mark Johnson, John Spradbury, Alex Donald, David Melbourne (*Soldiers*, *The Ambassadors of Death*). Steve Smart, Geoff Brighty, Ron Conrad, Les Conrad, Tom Laird, Doug Roe, Roy Brent, David Aldridge, Clive Rogers, Alan Chuntz, Steve Kelly, Keith Simons, Derek Chafer, Ron Gregory, Rod Peers, Stewart Myers, David Pike, Jo Santos (*Soldiers*). *Terror of the Autons*: Les Conrad (*UNIT Soldier*),

*The Mind of Evil*: Charles Marriott, Stuart Fell, Nick Hobbs, Dennis Balcombe, Roger Marsden (*UNIT Soldiers*), Billy Hornigan (*UNIT Corporal*), Michael Ely (*UNIT Chauffeur*). *The Claws of Axos*: Roy Brent, Bill Hughes, Douglas Roe, Clive Rogers, Pierce McAvooy, Michael Stamer (*UNIT Soldiers*). *Day of the Daleks*: David Melbourne (*UNIT Guard*), Bara Chambers (*Girl Operator*). Leon Maybank (*Man Operator*). *The Three Doctors*: Pat Gorman, Leslie

*Invasion/Invasion of the Dinosaurs*: Brian Nolan, Geoff Witherick, Dennis Plenty, David Billa, Ian Elhott, Louis Souchez, Leshe Bates, John Cash, James Muir (*UNIT Soldiers*); Richard King (*UNIT Typist*, *Terror of the Zygons*). James Muir, Barry Summerford, Alan Clements, Rowland Geall, Patrick Ginter, David Selby (*UNIT Soldiers*). *The Android Invasion*: Alan Clements, Christopher Woods, Alf Coster, Mark Allington, Pat Milner, Derek Hunt, Roy Pearce, Terry Sartam (*UNIT Soldiers*), Peter Brace (*Stunt Soldier*). *The Seeds of Doom*: Rowland Geall, Patrick Ginter, Tony Snell, Barry Summerford, Derek Wayland, Peter Bailey (*UNIT Soldiers*). *Battlefield*: Stephen Woodhouse, Laurie Goode, Craig Gilman, Mark Tony, Howard Buttress, Paul Dore (*British UNIT Troops*), Andrew Davoile, Garry Haig, Adrian Bean, Garry Lovin, Mark Warren, Peter Davoile, Kevin Maltby (*Missile Convoy*); Anthony Moss (*Missile Convoy Sergeant*), Ken Lee (*Czech UNIT Sergeant*), Dean Foy, Anthony Hayworth, Phil Player, Daniel Spacer, Andrew Jones, Peter Oliver (*Czech UNIT Troops*). [N.B. Many of the UNIT cast in battle and film sequences are not listed individually in documentation. Most of the above list refers to those in studio sequences.] Bates, Terence Denville, Terry Sartam, David Billa, David Melbourne (*Soldiers*, *The Green Death*). Lesae Bates, David Billa (*UNIT Men*), John Dearth (*UNIT Radio Voice*). *The Time Warrior*: David Cleeve, Stephen Ismay (*UNIT Soldiers*).



## CREDITS

**Writers:** Mervyn Haisman and Henry Lincoln (QQ), Derrick Sherwin from an idea by Kit Pedler (VV), Robert Holmes (AAA, EEE, UUU), Malcolm Hulke (BBB, HHH, WWW), David Whitaker (CCC), Don Houghton (DDD, FFF), Bob Baker and Dave Martin (GGG, RRR), Robert Sloman (JJJ [as Guy Leopold], OOO, TTT, ZZZ), Barry Letts (JJJ [as Guy Leopold], Louis Marks (KKK), Terrance Dicks (4A, 6K), Robert Banks Stewart (4F, 4L), Terry Nation (4J), Peter Grimwade (6F), Ben Aaronovitch (7N). **Script Editors:** Derrick Sherwin (QQ), Terrance Dicks (VV-ZZZ), Robert Holmes (4A, 4L), Eric Saward (6F/6K), Andrew Cartmel (7N). **Producers:** Peter Bryant (QQ/VV), Derrick Sherwin (AAA), Barry Letts (BBB-4A), Philip Hinchcliffe (4F, 4J, 4L), John Nathan-Turner (6F/6K/7N). **Directors:** Douglas Camfield (QQ, VV, DDD, 4F, 4L), Derek Martinus (AAA), Timothy Combe (BBB, FFF), Michael Ferguson (CCC, GGG), Barry Letts (DDD, EEE, ZZZ, 4J), Michael Brant (HHH, TTT), Christopher Barry (JJJ, 4A), Paul Bernard (KKK, OOO), Lennie Mayne (RRR), Alan Bromley (UUU), Paddy Russell (WWW), Peter Moffatt (6F, 6K), Michael Kerrigan (7N).



## BROADCAST DETAILS

### First transmission details for BBC1

Introduction of Lethbridge Stewart:

QQ *The Web of Fear*

3rd February-9th March, 1968

UNIT Serials (featuring more than Jo Grant or Harry Sullivan as the Doctor's companion):

VV *The Invasion*

2nd November-21st December, 1968

AAA *Spearhead from Space*

3rd January-24th January, 1970

BBB *Doctor Who and the Silurians*

31st January-14th March, 1970

CCC *The Ambassadors of Death*

21st March-2nd May, 1970

DDD *Inferno*

9th May-20th June, 1970

EEE *Terror of the Autons*

2nd January-23rd January, 1971

FFF *The Mind of Evil*

30th January-6th March, 1971

GGG *The Claws of Axos*

13th March-3rd April, 1971

HHH *Colony in Space*

10th April-15th May, 1971

JJJ *The Dæmons*

22nd May-19th June, 1971

KKK *Day of the Daleks*

1st January-22nd January, 1972

OOO *The Time Monster*

20th May-24th June, 1972

RRR *The Three Doctors*

30th December, 1972-20th

January, 1973

TTT *The Green Death*

19th May-23rd June, 1973

UUU *The Time Warrior*

15th December, 1973-5th January,

1974

WWW *Invasion/Invasion of the Dinosaurs*

12th January-16th February, 1974

ZZZ *Planet of the Spiders*

4th May-8th June, 1974

4A *Robot*

28th December, 1974-18th

January, 1975

4F *Terror of the Zygons*

30th August-20th September, 1975

4J *The Android Invasion*

22nd November-13th December,

1975

4L *The Seeds of Doom*

31st January-6th March, 1976

6K *The Five Doctors*

25th November, 1983

7N *Battlefield*

6th September-27th September,

1989

Also featuring Lethbridge-Stewart:

6F *Mawdryn Undead*

1st February-9th February, 1983

## UNIT RATINGS

The following list shows the average viewing figure, programme position and audience appreciation score for the stories that featured UNIT and Lethbridge Stewart. Please note that these are averages across the whole serials, and so include episodes not featuring UNIT (e.g.s. *Colony in Space* Episodes Two to Five, *Day of the Daleks* Episode Three, *The Time Monster* Episode Five, *The Time Warrior* Parts Two to Four, etc).

Introduction of Lethbridge Stewart:

QQ *The Web of Fear*

7.6M 62nd 54%

UNIT Serials (featuring more than Jo Grant or Harry Sullivan as the Doctor's companion):

VV *The Invasion*

6.9M 65th 54%

AAA *Spearhead from Space*

8.2M 53rd 56%(1)

BBB *Doctor Who and the Silurians*

7.7M 55th 58%

CCC *The Ambassadors of Death*

7.3M 62nd 60%(2)

DDD *Inferno*

5.6M 69th 60%(2)

EEE *Terror of the Autons*

8.0M 66th -(3)

FFF *The Mind of Evil*

8.0M 62nd -(3)

GGG *The Claws of Axos*

7.4M 55th -(3)

HHH *Colony in Space*

8.5M 28th -(3)

JJJ *The Dæmons*

8.3M 25th -(3)

KKK *Day of the Daleks*

9.6M 36th 52%(4)

OOO *The Time Monster*

7.4M 44th -(3)

RRR *The Three Doctors*

10.3M 31st -(3)

TTT *The Green Death*

7.7M 27th -(3)

UUU *The Time Warrior*

8.2M 55th 60%(1)

WWW *Invasion/Invasion of the Dinosaurs*

9.6M 31st 62%(5)

ZZZ *Planet of the Spiders*

9.0M 22nd 58%(6)

4A *Robot*

10.2M 24th 52%(7)

4F *Terror of the Zygons*

7.5M 42nd 56%(5)

4J *The Android Invasion*

11.7M 18th 58%

4L *The Seeds of Doom*

10.9M 24th 59%(8)

6K *The Five Doctors*

7.7M 54th 75%

7N *Battlefield*

3.6M 95th 67%

Also featuring Lethbridge Stewart:

6F *Mawdryn Undead*

7.3M 87th 68%



Alternate roles for Nicholas Courtney in *Inferno*. Photo © BBC.



Popular duo: Jo Grant and the Third Doctor meet in *Terror of the Autons*. Photo © BBC.



Mike Yates: traitor or on the side of the planet? *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* proved his test of character. Photo © BBC.



If Derrick Sherwin's UNIT serial goes ahead, will it see appearances of Sarah Jane Smith a *La K9 & Company*? Photo © BBC.

Footnotes to Audience Appreciation Figures

(1) Figures recorded for Episodes One and Four only

(2) Figures recorded for all except Episode Five

(3) No figures recorded for any episodes

(4) Figure recorded for compilation repeat

(5) Figures recorded for Parts One and Three only

(6) Figures recorded for all except Parts Four and Five

(7) Figures recorded for all except Part Three

(8) Figures recorded for Part One only





## LAST WORD FROM THE BRIGADIER

### Actor Nicholas Courtney recalls UNIT...

Looking back over my years with the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce I suppose that one of the most gratifying aspects of the Brigadier's job was the fact that he could countermand the orders of various and usually villainous generals and high-ranking officers. This was of course because he was only answerable to Geneva – the headquarters of UNIT – and not to the War Office in London. That fact gave him some latitude in making decisions – usually in a hurry – when necessity arose. It also enabled him to come to the assistance of the good Doctor – whichever face he was wearing – in times of dire urgency.

Readers will remember how General Scobie was taken over by the Autons in *Spearhead from Space*; and again the dastardly General in *Invasion of the Dinosaurs* was stopped in his tracks because of the Brigadier's refusal to submit to a senior officer's orders when he was convinced that the latter was up to no good. How agreeable it is to be on the side of the angels.

That was always how I perceived the Brigadier's role. Although he often argued with the Doctor, and frequently felt frustrated when the military option proved to be the incorrect one, he was nonetheless convinced from the start that the Doctor was a man to be trusted and supported to the limit. He felt quite the opposite when he had to deal with politicians. Like many military men he distrusted them as a breed – since they were usually self-seeking and often wrongly motivated. However he always accepted that the armed forces should be subservient to the elected representatives of the people.

As I remember it was during *Terror of the Zygons* that the Brigadier had a conversation with the Prime Minister of the day who turned out to be a woman. That was recorded in 1975. Fiction turned to fact in 1979 and remained that way for eleven and a half years – but the story's director, Douglas Camfield, couldn't have possibly had that particular real-life woman in mind when he suggested the idea. He couldn't – could he?

Talking of Douglas Camfield he – perhaps more than anyone else – was responsible for my time as the Brigadier. He directed *The Web of Fear* and liked what I did as the Colonel which surprised me because – as is well known – when I was in the army I was a lowly private, having no ambition to become a serious soldier. He also directed *The Invasion*, the first story to feature both UNIT and the Brigadier.

Subsequently he was responsible for one of my favourite

stories – *Inferno*. Looking at that adventure recently, I was struck by the brilliant pace that Douglas achieved in the action. It was certainly the yarn I enjoyed doing the most. It is very rewarding playing two parts and therefore two totally different aspects of one character. Portraying a baddie is also great fun and the fascist Brigade Leader was based more on Mussolini than any other dictator. Boastfulness and braggadocio apart from ruthlessness were the qualities I tried to convey.

I have often been asked at different conventions which were the alien monsters that worried me most. The answer is of course all of them! Just as when I am asked who was my favourite Doctor – "Splendid chaps – all of them." But I think I can be fairly specific about the 'things' which I found particularly unpleasant. They were the giant maggots in *The Green Death*. It is interesting that *Doctor Who*, together with other BBC programmes such as *Doomwatch* were ahead of their time on the question of the environment – the green factor. *The Green Death* was made in 1972 – long before the media, followed inevitably by the politicians, made it an issue.

It occurs to me that I have said rather little about my fellow actors and actresses throughout my time as head of UNIT. There was always an incredible feeling of fun and friendship with not only the regulars in the programme but also with the visiting artists. And this came from the top, including the producer, the director and writer – and above all, whoever was playing the Doctor.

I cannot honestly remember anyone during my time in *Doctor Who* who was bad news or cast a shadow over what was such a terrific programme with which to be involved.

On a personal note – I have learnt a lot from the show. I have gained immensely in many ways. Trips to America, for example, where during the Eighties the show was quite a cult. (Obviously the sales of the series abroad have kept my bank manager happy!) But above all having been a long-running character I have met so many different people who in their own particular way have enriched my experience. Thank you, *Doctor Who*.

Nicholas Courtney





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**DWM 123** Season Twenty-Three Visual Effects special; free poster featuring the First Doctor and the Cybermen by Alistair Pearson. Maureen O'Brien interview and Richard Humdall tribute. Strip: *The Gift*: 1 by Jamie Delano, art by John Ridgway.

**Note:** This is a special issue with new cover printed for Berni Inn giveaway boost.

**DWM 151** Graham Williams on *The Nightmare Fair*, *The Fall Guys* (stunt work Part 2); South West England Location Guide; Yeti feature. Text Story: *The Infinity Season* by Dan Abnett, illustrated by Gerry Dolan.

**DWM 152** *The Tribe of Gum* - behind the scenes photo feature; the Fall Guys Part 3; *The Ultimate Adventure* - review and photographs. Strip: *Nemesis of the Daleks*: 1 by Starkings, Tomlinson and Sullivan.

**DWM 154** Free Tom Baker and Santarans poster, David Fisher interview and early DWM comic strip feature. Strip: *Nemesis of the Daleks*: 3.

**DWM 155** David Banks on *The Ultimate Adventure* plus an interview with *Ghost Light* actor Ian Hogg. Strip: *Nemesis of the Daleks*: 4 plus a feature on recent DWM comic strip.

**DWM 157** *The Web Planet Archive*: 2 including Fact File, interviews with Jackie Lane and Frank Windsor; *The Curse of Fenric* location feature. Strip: *Hunger from the Ends of Time*: 1 by Dan Abnett and John Ridgway.

**DWM 158** Interviews with writers Marc Platt, Bill Strutton and BBC publicist Kevin O'Shea, Season Twenty-Six Visual Effects Feature. Strip: *Hunger from the Ends of Time*: 2.

**DWM 159** Season Twenty-Six Episode Guide (*Battlefield* and *Ghost Light*) plus South East Location Guide. Strip: *Train-Flight*: 1 featuring a guest appearance by Sarah Jane-Smith, by Donkin, Brand and Ridgway.

**DWM 160** Jon Pertwee and the Ice Warriors poster, Barry Letts interview; Season Twenty-Six (*The Curse of Fenric* and *Survival*) Guide. Strip: *Train-Flight*: 2.

**DWM 161** *The Masque of Mandragora* archive; director Alan Wareing interview. Strip: *Train-Flight*: 3.

**DWM 162** Sophie (Ace) Aldred on the cover plus the character's debut in DWM fiction in the text story *Living in the Past* by Andrew Lane, illustrated by Cam Smith. Nostalgia: *Marco Polo* including previously unpublished photographs from this missing story. Strip: *Doctor Conkeror* by Rimmer and Collins.

**DWM 163** Interviews with Elisabeth Sladen, William Russell and writer Terrance Dicks plus *The Two Doctors* location feature by Production Manager Gary Downie. Text Story: *Teenage Kicks* by Paul Cornell, illustrated by Cam Smith.

**DWM 164** Interviews with John Nathan-Turner and Philip Madoc; *Terror of the Autons* Archive: 1; *The Two Doctors* recording feature Part two. Strip: *Fellow Travellers*: 1 by Andrew Cartmel and Arthur Ranson.

**DWM 165** Katy Manning and Video FX designer David Chapman interviewed plus *The Terror of the Autons* Archive 2

# Back Issues

Marvel are now able to offer a limited number of Doctor Who back issues to readers. The rates (which include postage, packing and handling) are as follows: UK £2.80; Overseas (Surface Mail) £3.50; Overseas (Air Mail) £4.40.

To order, list the issues required and send a cheque or Postal Order for the correct amount (payments in British Sterling or US dollar equivalent only) to Doctor Who Magazine Back Issues Dept., PO Box 500, Leicester, Great Britain LE99 0AA. Please allow 28 days for UK delivery.

including fact file; and Foreign Locations Guide. Strip: *Fellow Travellers*: 2.

**DWM 167** Fifty-two page merchandise special; free Abslom Daak - Dalek Killer flexi-disc. Interviews with recent series' incidental musicians, director Waris Hussein, Virgin Books Editor Peter Darvill-Evans, former *Who* licensing executive Julie Dixon, plus special tribute material to Graham Williams by Anthony Read, Lalla Ward and Mary Tamm. Strip: *Darkness Falling* by Abnett, Sullivan and Mark Farmer plus the first week of a proposed *Doctor Who* newspaper strip that is still seeking a home...

**DWM 168** London Location Guide; script editor Anthony Read and director Paul Bernard interviewed; the Doctor in Holland - foreign transmission feature. Strip: *Distractions*, continuing the six part *Mandragora* sequel, *Doctor Who* newspaper strip week two.

**DWM 171** BBC Video special issue including check list, *The Aztecs* production feature plus interviews with Wendy Padbury and Tomek Bork.

**DWM 172** *The Awakening* Archive including interview with write Eric Pringle and additional material by designer Barry Newbery, actress Janet Fielding and producer John Nathan-Turner. Strip: *The Mark of Mandragora*: 4.

**DWM 173** Interviews with writer Graeme Curry and director Fiona Cumming plus fiction featuring the Fourth Doctor and *Party Animals* strip by Gary Russell, Mike Collins and Steve Pini.

**DWM 174** Fifty-two page special; free Peter Davison poster and TARDIS journeys listing, console schematics, interview material on its original design, *The Three Doctors* Nostalgia and *The Chameleon Factor* comic strip, featuring a cameo appearance by the Second Doctor, written by Paul Cornell and drawn by Lee Sullivan with inks by Mark Farmer.

**DWM 175** Virgin's New Adventures previewed with an extract of *Genesis* introduced by John Peel and specially illustrated by Paul Vyse. Plus interviews with James Ellis and Louise Jameson, Longleat Exhibition feature. Strip: *The Good Soldier*: 1 by Cartmel, Collins and Pini featuring the Cybermen.

**DWM 176** Your views on the show, its merchandising and its future! Plus a full W. H. Allen books listing and a *The Tomb of the Cybermen* mini-poster. Strip: *The Good Soldier*: 2 and Brief Encounter - *Mistaken Identity* - by Gary Russell.

**DWM 177** *Who's America*; *The Visitation* Nostalgia feature; *Those Radio Times* - the Tom Baker Years plus interview with writer Peter Ling. Strip: *The Good Soldier*: 3.

**DWM 178** *Slipback* - the radio play archived with fact file and recording feature. Sophie Aldred on the making of *Ghost Light* plus interviews with Mary Tamm and New Adventures writers Terrance Dicks, Nigel Robinson and Paul Cornell. Strip: *The Good Soldier*: 4 and Brief Encounters - *Affirmative* by Daniel

Read and *An Unfulfilled Dream* by Karen Dunn - illustrated by Paul Vyse.

**DWM 179** Tom Baker interview Part One plus *Genesis of the Daleks* Nostalgia feature; 1991 Merchandise feature and Collectors' Corner. Strip: *A Glitch in Time* by John Freeman and Richard Whitaker.

**DWM 180** First regular fifty-two page with free Patrick Troughton poster, *The Power of the Daleks* archive; *The Tenth Planet* design feature, and interviews with Innes Lloyd (shortly before his untimely death), director Christopher Barry and continuing our talk with Tom Baker. Strip: *Evening's Empire*: 1 by Cartmel and Richard Piers Rayner.

**DWM 181** Free Seven Doctors poster, *The Moonbase* design feature and *Spearhead from Space* archive, plus the final part of our Tom Baker interview. Strip: *Evening's Empire*: 2 plus Brief Encounter - *Echoes of Future Past* by John Summerfield - and *Heliotrope Bouquet*: 1 by Dan Abnett, illustrated by Lee Sullivan.

## DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE SPECIALS

Rates as above. Please note that only limited stocks are available and are listed on a first come, first served basis.

### DOCTOR WHO AUTUMN SPECIAL 1987

Design special, including interviews with director Julia Smith and costume designer June Hudson, special effects feature and designer Ray Cusick on *Doctor Who's* early years.

### DOCTOR WHO TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Special tribute to twenty-five years of *Doctor Who*, including features on all seven TV Doctors, merchandise and comic strip to date. Text story: *Scream of the Silent* by John Freeman, illustrated by Lee Sullivan.

### DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE TENTH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

A tribute to ten years of *Doctor Who Magazine* including interviews with Nicholas Courtney and Colin Baker and special portfolio artwork by Dave Gibbons, Mick Austin, John Ridgway and Lee Sullivan plus *Black Orchid* archive.

### DOCTOR WHO SUMMER SPECIAL 1991

Fifty-two pages. Full update location listings features from DWM over the last two years, including feature material on the making of *Silver Nemesis* by Sophie Aldred and *Delta* and the *Bannermen* by Gary Downie. Strip: *Seaside Rendezvous* by Paul Cornell, Gary Frank and Stephen Baskerville.

### DOCTOR WHO WINTER SPECIAL 1991: UNIT EXPOSED

Fifty-two pages. Free poster by Richard Piers Rayner, details on the making of the UNIT stories and contributions from Ben Aaronovitch, Derrick Sherwin and Nicholas Courtney including a full expose on the secret organisation that defends our planet from alien invasion. Strip: *The Man in the Iron Mask* by Dan Abnett and Brian Williamson. Brief Encounter by Colin Baker.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

Please note the different mail order prices for the specials below.

**VOYAGER GRAPHIC NOVEL** by Steve Parkhouse and John Ridgway, featuring the Sixth Doctor against the menace of Astrolabus. Full colour graphic album. UK £6.00, £8.00 overseas orders.

**ABSLOM DAAK - DALEK KILLER** by Steve Moore, John Tomlinson and Richard Starkings with art by Steve Dillon, David Lloyd and Lee Sullivan. The complete Abslom Daak story to date with additional text story and Kill Wagon and Dalek Death Wheel blueprints. UK £7.00, £9.00 overseas.

**DOCTOR WHO YEAR BOOK 1991** including background to how *Doctor Who* began as a series; the making of *The Curse of Fenric* by Sophie Aldred and John Nathan-Turner and complete episode guide. Plus Brief Encounters by John Lucarotti, Marc Platt, John Lydecker and Colin Baker and comic strip featuring the Third and Fourth Doctor from Dan Abnett, Vincent Danks and Cam Smith. Hardback, full colour. UK £6.00, £8.50 overseas orders.